

Support Program for Ex-combatant Children, Colombia

12th

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Quarterly Report
January - March 2004
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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Assistance Program for Ex-combatant Children, financed by USAID in March 2001, has been operating for 36 months. During this time 1,717 children demobilized from the armed conflict have received assistance. Of these, 1,529 have received assistance from the Specialized Attention Centers (CAE in Spanish) of the Colombian Family Welfare Institute's (ICBF in Spanish) and, 188 children belong to the Program with Indigenous and Afro-Colombians. On average, 48 children have joined the Program each month, since its beginning in March 2001. However, during the January - March 2004 quarter, this average has increased to 51 children per month, or 2 children admitted into the Program every day.

Regarding compliance with the objective of strengthening the Colombian Government's policy to provide assistance to ex-combatant children, during this quarter the design of two new assistance models: Foster Homes and Assistance through Conditional Subsidies, was completed. These new components will serve as a complement for the Temporary Homes (HAT in Spanish), the Specialized Attention Centers (CAE), the Half Way Homes (CJ in Spanish) and the Referral and Opportunities Centers (CRO in Spanish). By March 31, 2004 628 children demobilized from the armed conflict were receiving overall assistance through these models in the 24 centers located in nine cities countrywide: Bogotá, Medellín, Cali, Bucaramanga, Pereira, Armenia, Tunja, Cota and Cajicá.

Progress was made during this quarter, in the ICBF Protection Program's decentralization process, which has been lead by the institution's headquarters in Bogotá. During a joint evaluation with the IOM technical team it was decided to strengthen the ICBF's Regional and Local Centers' management. In order to do so two workshops were carried out -- one with the ICBF's operations personnel to plan the activities for 2004; and the other one with the Centers' regional directors and the area coordinators to train them on joint guidelines, standards, contracting and action plans.

Regarding the objective of restoring the rights of ex-combatant children -- besides providing all the children with room and board, clothes, and personal hygiene items -- the following accomplishments were made during this quarter:

Access to the national health system was increased by obtaining the identification cards of the Social Programs Beneficiaries Selection System (SISBEN in Spanish) for 38.3% of the children that were provided assistance during this quarter (241 of a total of 628). Furthermore, 611 dental appointments, 880 medical tests and 552 doctors' appointments were completed during the quarter.

As regards to the psychosocial component, 100% of the children (628 in the 24 centers) received psychological care as well as support from social workers.

During this quarter 38 youngsters had encounters with their families. A total of 195 children, out of 1,529, have been reintegrated to their families, 39 of which took place during this quarter.

The Program's Scholarship Fund granted 39 new scholarships compared to 184 during the previous quarter. This decline was due to the successful actions of the Program's management with the Ministry of Education and of the ICBF with the municipal education offices. These actions resulted in the attainment of 359 slots in public sector education institutions for the children of the Program, thus furthering the restoration of the right to education in a more sustainable manner. Slots for the children who live in Bogotá and Cundinamarca have been approved but the Program still needs to find the openings in those institutions. This ensures that 100% of the Program's children will have access to the public education system.

The progress made with regard to the objective of supporting the social integration of children demobilized from the armed conflict has been significant; 417 youngsters already have all their documents -- civil registration, identification card and the certificate of the Committee for the Surrender of Arms (*Comité Operativo para la Dejación de Armas* (CODA). This confers them with a legal identity and entitles them to receive the CODA's social and economic benefits. CODA certifications increased during this quarter because 75 youngsters went into the Ministry of the Interior Reintegration Program (only 25 did so during the previous quarter).

The Bogotá Referral and Opportunities Center (CRO) is following-up on 48 youngsters who entered the Ministry of the Interior Program. In addition, the CRO is providing assistance to 42 other children for a total of 90. A second CRO was opened in Cali to follow-up and provide orientation to youngsters who graduated from the Program and who live in that city.

Regarding labor opportunities, 21 youngsters found permanent jobs as a result of the agreements reached with private sector companies. Furthermore, 738 youngsters have received training (218 during this quarter) in areas such as food handling, tailoring and services. This will give them access to the 963 jobs available for the Program's youngsters.

With respect to the component to prevent children from engaging in the armed conflict, continuity was given during this quarter to the projects under the Risk and Vulnerability Map Methodology in 21 municipalities of seven departments countrywide, with the participation of 567 people. Four vocational training programs have started in the areas of cabinetmaking, auto repair, small animal breeding and dressmaking. A total of 10,442 individuals – children, teachers, government officials, parents and guardians – have participated in the workshops for the prevention of child recruitment by illegal armed groups (GAI in Spanish).

The Initiative to Prevent Child Engagement in the Armed Conflict was launched by mid-quarter. It was the result of a joint effort in the design of the communication strategies (television and radio commercials, posters and prevention kits) carried out by the ICBF, the Human Rights Ombudsman Office, the International Labor Organization, UNICEF and IOM. This initiative has been funded by USAID and the Swedish and Norwegian embassies. A commercial on TV had a 9,368,192 audience according to an official report of the Brazilian-Colombian Public Opinion and Statistics Institute (IBOPE in Spanish). Also, a radio campaign reached 5,000,000 people according to *Caracol Radio*. In addition, 4,000 posters and 950 brochures were distributed. Although the regional campaign was scheduled for March, it has been delayed as a result of revisions of its documents and materials by the ICBF and UNICEF, and also because of security concerns raised by UNICEF regarding the visibility of the regional events.

The income generation, education, cultural and health projects under the prevention and reintegration component for Indigenous and Afro-Colombian ex-combatant children benefited 188 youngsters. Seven Indigenous and Afro-Colombian ex-combatant children joined the Program during this quarter.

Fear in the conflict areas and the constant presence of the GAI lead children demobilized from the armed conflict to hide or have a very low profile. Thus, emphasis is made on the concept of prevention through projects where the children participate in workshops on human rights, education, culture, sports, domestic violence prevention and income generating activities. During this quarter 1,146 Indigenous and Afro-Colombian children in Chocó and Cauca were benefited by the Program's prevention strategy.

| Results during January-March 2004 | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|---------|--|
| Indicators / Trends | Cumulative | Quarter | Comments |
| Jobs created | 963 | - | Emphasis was made on the start-up of 10 projects that were approved during the previous quarter. |
| Job training | 738 | 218 | Four learning by doing workshops were carried out with 83 children of the Program and 135 scholarships were granted for labor skills training in tailoring, services, sports, auto repair, printing services and food handling. |
| Access to Education | 714 | 398 | 714 children have been provided support for their education. 39 scholarships were granted during the quarter. Of these, 17 were given to youngsters who have been reunited with their families, 14 were granted to the Referral Center for youngsters who have graduated from the Program, and eight for youngsters of the ICBF Program centers. In addition, 359 slots were assigned countrywide through the municipal education offices. |
| Access to Healthcare | 1.529 | 628 | The total number of children who have had access to healthcare is distributed in the following way: Medical appointments: 552 (includes Profamilia appointments) Dental appointments: 611 Consultation for birth control methods: 177 Laboratory tests: 880 Emergency consultations: 92 Appointments with specialists: 86 SISBEN members: 241 |
| Reintegrated families | 195 | 39 | During this quarter 39 youngsters were reintegrated with their families. |
| Minorities (Prevention) | 188 | 7 | Indigenous and Afro-Colombian children demobilized from the armed conflict in Cauca and Chocó. |
| Beneficiaries at risk of recruitment | 10.442 | 1.208 | Seven departments: Antioquia, Cauca, Cundinamarca, Chocó, Huila, Putumayo and Santander. 1,146 individuals who belong to ethnic minorities. |
| Ex-combatant Children | 1.717 | 161 | Of the total number of children assisted 1,529 have benefited from the ICBF Program and 188 belong to Indigenous and Afro-Colombian minorities. 161 children joined the Program during this quarter; 154 joined the ICBF Program and 7 are in the projects for ethnic minorities. |

II. CONTEXT

Politics

The predominant issue in Colombian politics during this quarter has been the presidential re-election¹. Other important issues have been the signing of a political agreement and the formation of committees to work on such agreement.

The re-election debate began by the end of January when ex-presidential candidate and current Colombian Ambassador to Spain Noemí Sanín, brought up the subject publicly. Following that episode, an important advisor to the President² said in an interview³ that not only the President intended to be re-elected, but that a new party might be created, lead by Colombian President Álvaro Uribe.

The re-election Bill was sent to the Congress by the end of March. It states that re-election is possible only if the candidates for President and Vice-President are the same, and for consecutive or non-consecutive periods. Moreover, it determines that they will only be allowed to campaign during the last 120 days before the elections and are banned from using Government resources for this purpose.

However, the supporters of the proposal have already started collecting signatures so that if the Bill is not passed by the Congress, they will have made progress on the popular front in the meantime⁴. The President's supporters have already collected 180,000 signatures, well over the 130,000 that are necessary in order for the National Electoral Council to accept it as a popular initiative. However, in the event that the bill is not passed by the Congress, it will be necessary to collect one million three hundred thousand signatures by the end of August in order for the project to be accepted as a popular initiative.

As the re-election debates were underway, the Administration started organizing the political forces so as to further the political agreement. However, the efforts toward the formulation of a political agreement -- an initiative that had been well received -- were affected by the re-election discussion.⁵ Finally, the political agreement was signed on February 17 by the main political forces in the country, except for the Polo Democrático. However, the agreement is seen more as a memorandum of understanding between the government and ten political organizations that is "against the expectations generated by the signing of the political agreement since the government did not reveal what exact reforms it wants to make to the pension and the tax systems and to the Justice and State branches⁶".

As a result of the political agreement, a number of topic committees were created, which are currently debating the aforementioned issues. In terms of justice reforms, the government would like to achieve the following: reform the *tutela* (a legal action that citizens can take to seek immediate reparation to wrongdoings); reduce the power of the Constitutional Court; change the structure of the *Consejo Superior de la Judicatura* (an administrative body in the justice system); and change the mechanism to appoint the Attorney General. These objectives are not popular among certain sectors. This means that the reforms will encounter serious obstacles.⁷ For example, the *tutela* issue has caused confrontation between the Constitutional Court and the Highest Justice (Federal) Court⁸ because while the former rejects any reform, the latter supports it.

President Uribe's visits to Europe and the United States dominated the international scenario. Before Uribe's trip to Europe, Vice President Francisco Santos publicly responded to the harsh criticism by the European Commissioner for International Relations, Chris Patten, against the Anti-terrorist Statute and non-compliance with 24 recommendations given by United Nations Human Rights Commission. Santos said "Europe still has a neo-colonial vision of the administration of justice in this country"⁹.

¹ Currently, a president can be elected only once and the term in office is for four years.

² Fabio Echeverri Correa, Presidential Advisor. He was President of the National Industrial Association (ANDI) for many years.

³ Yamid Amat; "Echeverri before the re-election issue"; *El Tiempo*, February 1, 2004, p. 1-18.

⁴ *El Tiempo*, "The first 180,000 signatures are in place", March 8 de 2004, p. 1-6.

⁵ *El Tiempo*, "Re-election creates disorder", February 3, 2004, p. 1-3.

⁶ *El Tiempo*, "There is agreement, but no text", February 18, 2004, p. 1-5.

⁷ *El Espectador*, "Punch to the Constitution of 1991", February 29 2004, p. 5 A.

⁸ *El Tiempo*, "This is the struggle for the justice reform", March 1º de 2004, p. 1-6.

⁹ *El Tiempo*, "Harsh reply to Europe" January 20, 2003, p.. 1.1 and 1-3.

Needless to say¹⁰, “the President’s tour of Europe was controversial, intense and bore sweet-and-sour results¹¹”. Some of the concrete outcomes of his visit were: The announcement of a possible postponement of the General Preferences System, having obtained the support of Italy, Germany and Belgium, and also the Italian government approval of 1.5 million euros to support the reintegration of former child combatants which will be channeled through the IOM.

In the United States, President Uribe emphasized the need to extend the Plan Colombia for an additional four years¹² and to agree to start the negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement in May. Moreover, the Bush Administration requested that the cap for American military in Colombia be increased from 400 to 800 and for American contractors from 400 to 600. The reactions to such proposal have been diverse.¹³

The Conflict

There have been no major developments regarding the conflict during the first quarter in 2004. Perhaps the most important occurrences were two simultaneous attacks by the FARC in the Department of Huila. During the evening hours on February 24 the FARC took over an upper-class apartment building in Neiva, the capital of Huila, and kidnapped at least two people¹⁴. Almost at the same time, the FARC attacked an Army base in the municipality of Santa Maria, which is located more than one hour away from Neiva. Twelve soldiers were killed. Another attack, of a similar intensity, took place in the Department of Casanare in November 2002 when fourteen soldiers were killed¹⁵.

These facts lead President Uribe to review the curriculum of the upper tiers of the Colombian security apparatus and to discharge six high-ranking military officers of the Police and the DAS (the Colombian version of the FBI). The media has judged his decision harshly: “the practical result of such a precipitous decision on the part of the President is actually contrary to his objectives: it will increase the guerrillas’ war booty, who can now add the military discharged to the soldiers killed in Santa Maria and the two people kidnapped in Neiva”¹⁶

According to some analysts “in the first two month of the year, the FARC has undertaken almost twice as many violent actions as those carried out in January and February 2003”, and “a significant number of the violent actions perpetrated by the FARC this year have taken place in the southwestern part of the country”. Finally, “the increase of violence in the south and the west could be a perfect distraction for the Army’s advance toward the departments of Guainía, Caquetá and Amazonas”.¹⁷

Among the actions of the Public Force, the capture of Nayibe Rojas Valderrama, known as ‘Sonia’ is noteworthy. According to Army Intelligence, she is the person responsible for the finances of the Southern Bloc, one of the strongest ones in the organization since it obtains most of its profit from drug trafficking. According to Army Commander General Carreño, Sonia’s arrest is the most important achievement against the FARC, after the capture of ‘Simón Trinidad’.¹⁸

Other important achievements of the military are the recovery of a number of areas in the department of Caquetá, the crushing of the FARC 22 Front in the department of Cundinamarca, the recovery of both Cañón de Las Hermosas in the Department of Tolima and of the Bogotá – Medellín highway.

The war on drugs has also delivered important results. In early March the United States Department of State presented its annual report on illegal drugs, where it states that Colombia has been successful in eradicating 125,000 hectares of illegal drugs (3,000 more than last year), in the destruction of 84 cocaine processing laboratories and has shown an important increase (70%) in extraditions.¹⁹

¹⁰ El Tiempo, Editorial, “Light and Shadows of the trip”, February 15, 2000, p. 1-16.

¹¹ The trip took place in mid- February.

¹² El Tiempo, “Uribe asks for more Plan Colombia”, March 20, 2004, p. 1-5.

¹³ El Tiempo, “E.U. wants to double its military force in Colombia”, March 22 2004, p.. 1-1 and 1-2.

¹⁴ A similar strategy was used in the same city in July of 2001 when the FARC kidnapped 15 people. El Tiempo, “Assault in the heart of Neiva”, February 26, 2004, p. 1-1 and 1-2.

¹⁵ El Tiempo, “12 soldiers die in gas cylinder attacks”, February 26, 2004, p.1-2.

¹⁶ El Tiempo, Editorial, “Lessons learned”, February 29, 2004, p. 16 A.

¹⁷ Sergio Ocampo Madrid, “FARC: ¿from tactical retreat to offence?”, El Tiempo, February 27, 2004, p. 1-4.

¹⁸ El Tiempo, “FARC leader falls in Caquetá”, February 11, 2004, p. 2-9.

¹⁹ El Tiempo, “Colombia broke all records in counter-narcotics fight”, March 2, 2004, p. 1-1 and 1-2.

Congress started the review of the Bill known as the “anti-terrorist statute”. The government insists that all Colombians should register themselves and their addresses, and not just those living in high violent areas as it had argued before. The government's request has caused controversy even among the Congressmen that proposed the Bill in the first place, who now think that the government is changing the rules of the game. This, along with the controversy over the presidential re-election²⁰, has caused the “antiterrorist statute”, which is an important piece of legislation for the Administration's National Security Plan, to remain unregulated to this day.

The performance of the Public Force²¹ continues to improve. The arrest of paramilitaries has increased by 155% (from 310 to 790) compared to the January-February 2003 period, and the number of paramilitaries killed increased by 296% (from 29 to 115). Captures of guerrillas have also increased compared to last year. These increased by 9.5% (from 912 to 999), while the number of guerrillas killed increased by 78% (from 202 to 359).

Individual demobilizations have increased significantly. Paramilitary demobilizations increased by 300% (from 32 to 128) and the guerrillas by 25% (from 203 to 254). Finally, the government has achieved important results against violence and crime. Homicides dropped by 13.4%, massacres by 30.4% and kidnappings by 55.3%.

Ex-Combatants Children

The increasing number of children demobilized from the armed conflict seems to imply that recruitment of minors by illegal armed groups is also increasing. The number of demobilized children during the first quarter of 2004 increased by 65.5% (from 93 to 154) compared to those demobilized in the first quarter of 2003²². Moreover, Armed Forces Commander General Ospina reported that, while five child soldiers died in combat during the first two months of 2003, that number increased to 19 in 2004²³. These statistics present an even worse reality than what the IOM projections had indicated²⁴. The IOM based its projections on two aspects: 1) the number of demobilized children who joined the ICBF Programs; and 2) the increase of the number of children admitted during the past few years. However, the results indicate the following: 1) the number of children that the Program might receive in 2004 is projected at 1,200 to 1,400 – this figure does not present a substantial change compared to the past few years; 2) the number of children who disengage from the paramilitary groups is increasing compared to those from guerrilla groups. Recently a number of reports have indicated that there may be as many as 14,000 active children among the illegal armed groups²⁵. According to the Antonio Restrepo Barco Foundation, the FARC could have 7,400 children, the ELN 1,480, and the paramilitary 2,200²⁶.

Finally, the ICBF launched an important prevention campaign in February²⁷. The IOM has also launched a recruitment prevention campaign based on massive circulation and broadcasting of messages related recruitment prevention.

Negotiations with Paramilitary Groups

There has been significant progress in the negotiations with the paramilitary during the first quarter of 2004. However, the bill that establishes the judicial status of those who demobilize – which is one of the most controversial issues in the negotiations -- has not been passed yet. The issues concerning the negotiations with the paramilitary can be divided into three groups: the demobilization-reintegration

²⁰ El Tiempo, “Uribe followers almost change partners”, April 2, 2004, p. 1-4.

²¹ Ministerio De Defensa Nacional, Public Force Results –Violence, Criminality and Terrorism, the Presidential Period: 19 months. All the statistics presented here are taken from this report.

²² However, it has decreased by 29.2% compared to the last quarter in 2003. These figure were provided by the Colombian Welfare Institute (ICBF) Information System for the Ex-combatant Children.

²³ Moreover 5 minors of the ELN died, 11 of the AUC, and 9 of criminal gangs. EL PAIS, March 8, 2004.

²⁴ Information Analysis Unit – IOM Demobilized Children and Youth, January 2004.

²⁵ Human Rights Watch, *Fundación Antonio Restrepo Barco, Watchlist*, and Children and the Armed Conflict

²⁶ El Pais, March 8, 2004.

²⁷ 10-year Plan for Youth, National Plan for Childhood, in Spanish: *Plan Decenal para la Infancia*.

processes; the involvement of the Organization of American States (OAS); and the Alternative Sentencing Law. Each issue are reviewed separately as follows:.

There have been two demobilizations so far, one in Medellín (*Bloque Cacique Nutibara*) and one in Ortega, Cauca (*Autodefensas Campesinas de Ortega*). No new demobilizations have occurred during this quarter, and only a smaller one is likely to take place in a low-income neighborhood of Medellín later this year²⁸. The demobilization, in Medellín encountered a rough start, while in Cauca, two projects have been formulated, one for the opening and improvement of the Road, El Dinde-Ortega, in the municipality of Cajibío (Cauca), and an income generation proposal of VallenPaz. Both projects are being coordinated by the High Commissioner for Peace Office. When the newly-elected mayor, Sergio Fajardo, took office in early January he found that the financial resources for this project had been significantly reduced from 6.8 million dollars to about 1.8 million dollars²⁹. However, with the little money available, the process has continued with relative calm and stability. Currently, approximately 762 (88%) of the 866 demobilized individuals are working; the rest are in the process of being hired by the city government and by local businesses. In the meantime they are receiving a temporary stipend for food and transportation. The Organization of American States (OAS), which was present during the demobilization ceremony in Medellín, became an important player in the negotiations during this quarter. On January 23, the OAS signed an agreement with the government whereby it took the responsibility of verifying that the peace agreements between the government and the AUC are upheld³⁰. The following day, Cesar Gaviria, the OAS Secretary General explained in an interview that his organization would oversee the entire demobilization process, including the cease fire. After initially approving the OAS's³¹ role and its presence, the AUC leadership began to oppose the mechanism selected for the verification of the cease fire (the concentration of paramilitary forces) arguing that the government did not have the resources or the manpower necessary to secure the areas from which the paramilitary would withdraw.

In the meantime, serious allegations began to surface in terms that the AUC is not complying with the cease-fire. In fact, the Government released a report on February 19 stating that 362 homicides, 16 massacres, and 180 abductions had occurred at the hands of that organization since November of 2002 when the cease fire was unilaterally declared³². In light of such findings, the role and request of the OAS became even more compelling. Finally, the AUC and the BCB, including the *Bloque Vencedores de Arauca*, appear to have accepted to come together in the negotiations³³ and to give priority to the discussion on the location, conditions and regulations for a possible concentration³⁴. The most worrisome issue in the negotiations seems to be the demobilizations' legal framework, especially the Alternative Sentencing Bill³⁵. The first Bill was drafted in August of 2003, but it immediately received strong criticisms for being "too soft" on those who committed heinous crimes since it did not contemplate prison sentences. A new draft Bill was presented before the Congress in January. This one includes stronger sentences (including prison sentences), financial reparation to the families of the victims, extradition³⁶, repossession of illegally acquired goods³⁷, and the creation of a truth and justice tribunal³⁸. A final draft of the Bill should be presented to Congress in early April, after the suggestions from different social sectors are evaluated and incorporated³⁹.

²⁸ According to the leading newspaper El Tiempo, 100 members of the "Autodefensas del Magdalena Medio" active in the Comuna 13 are interested in demobilizing. "Demobilization announced" In El Tiempo, March 31, 2004.

²⁹ City Government Secretary Alonso Salazar stated that of the approximately 6.8 million dollars that the previous Mayor had allocated for the demobilization of the *Bloque Cacique Nutibara*, around 5 million had already been spent on projects that were completely unrelated to the demobilization and re-incorporation of the paramilitary. "Paramilitary process with little money" *El El Tiempo*, 14 January, 2004.

³⁰ "OAS mission will verify the peace process in Colombia" *El Tiempo*, January 25, 2004.

³¹ "The OAS support is vita" *El Tiempo*, February 2, 2004.

³² "Peace process with self-defense groups in crisis" *El Tiempo*, March 4, 2004.

³³ *El Tiempo* "paramilitary offer to the Government", April 1, 2004.

³⁴ AUC www.colombialibre.org "Public declaration of Unity for Peace" March 31, 2004.

³⁵ William Wood, the American Ambassador to Colombia criticized the lack of transparency during and the absence of a legal framework prior to the demobilization of the *Bloque Cacique Nutibara* in Medellín. "The US Ambassador questions the process with BCN" *El Tiempo*, March 18, 2004.

³⁶ Extradition was eventually eliminated from the bill, as per request of he President, Alvaro Uribe, who declared that extradition is not negotiable. "Changes in Alternative Sentencing Bill" *El Tiempo*, 31 March 2004.

³⁷ "Prison or no prison for paramilitary groups?" *El Tiempo*, 15 January, 2004.

³⁸ "Changes in Alternative Sentencing Bill" *El Tiempo*, 31 March 2004.

³⁹ Important economic groups, the victims' families and political parties were among those invited to publicly discuss the draft of the law

III. ASSISTANCE PROVIDED AND PROGRAM PROFILE (ICBF AND ETHNIC MINORITIES)

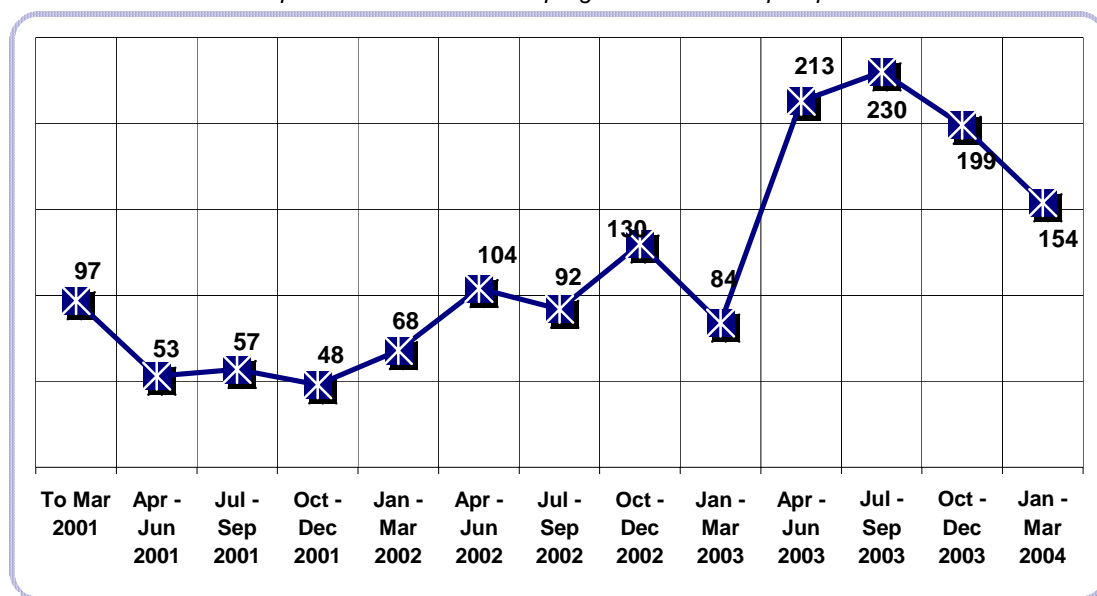
Table 1: Beneficiaries cumulative report

| Beneficiaries Report | | |
|----------------------|---|--------|
| 2001- 2004 | Assistance Program for Ex-combatant Children from March 21, 2001 through March 31, 2004 | 1,529 |
| | Ethnic Minorities through March 31, 2004 | 188 |
| | Total Ex-combatant children | 1,717 |
| | Prevention | 10,442 |
| | Total IOM Program | 12,159 |

Table 1 includes a summary of the boys and girls who have received assistance under the Program since its beginning in March 2001 until March 31, 2004. The rights of 1,529 children demobilized from the armed conflict have been restored through the Attention Centers (HATs, CAEs and CJs). In addition, 188 children of Indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities demobilized from the armed conflict have been provided assistance through the ethnic minority projects. This represents a total of 1,717 children demobilized from the armed conflict having received assistance from the Program. The prevention projects have directly benefited 10,442 boys and girls at risk of being recruited by illegal armed groups. Thus, the total number of children benefited by the Program financed by USAID is 12,159.

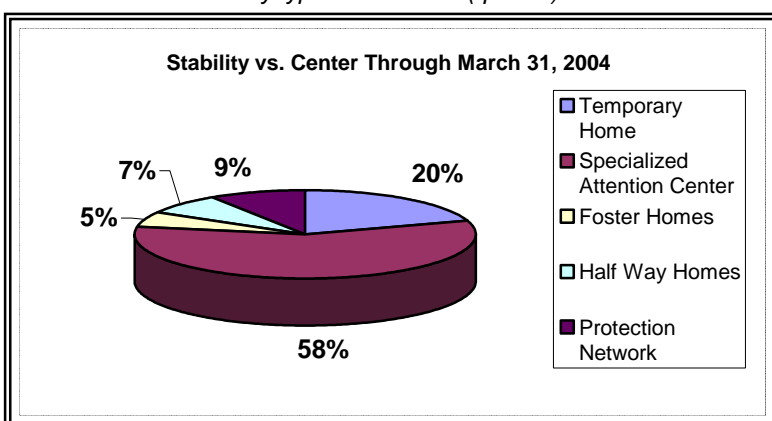
1. IOM-ICBF Program

Graph 1: Breakdown of new program admissions per quarter



During this quarter the declining tendency in the number of children that join the ICBF Protection Program centers continued. Graph 1 shows that during this quarter (January – March 2004) the number of children that joined the Program dropped by 45 (29.2%) compared to the previous quarter. However, comparing the January-March 2003 quarter with the same period in 2004, there was an 83% increase in the number of children demobilized from the armed conflict (from 84 to 154) that joined the Program.

Graph 2: Percentage of children entering the program by type of institution (quarter)



As of March 31, 2004, 628 children remained in the ICBF Protection Program, of which 126 were in the 5 HATs, 363 in 15 CAEs, 47 in four CJs, 58 in the institutions that comprise the ICBF Protection Network, and 34 in Foster Homes in Bogotá. The different systems that comprise the ICBF Program have an installed capacity to house 686 children demobilized from the armed conflict. Therefore, the quarter ended with 58 slots still available.

Table 2: Children assisted vs. children leaving the program (cumulative)

| Quarter | Total assisted | Children assisted through Mar 2004 | Children in the ICBF Protection Network through Mar 2004 | Children reintegrated with their families | Children leaving before Program completion | Children in the Interior Ministry Reintegration Program | Children leaving the Program when reaching adult age |
|-------------|----------------|------------------------------------|--|---|--|---|--|
| March 31 | 1529 | 570 | 58 | 195 | 433 | 203 | 70 |
| December 31 | 1375 | 553 | 72 | 257 | 335 | 128 | 30 |

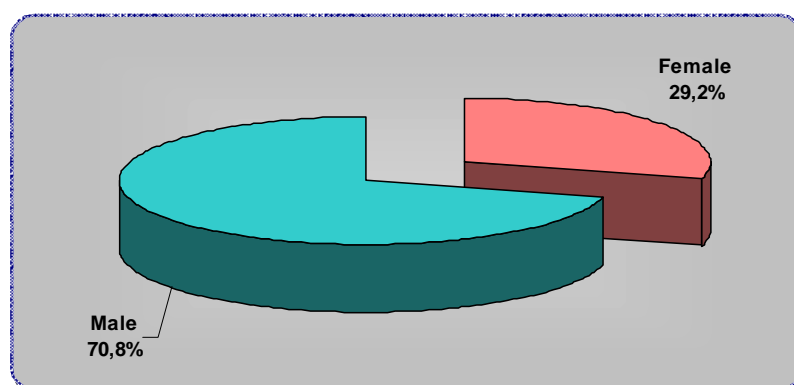
Table 2 shows that of the total 1,529 children who were provided assistance by the Program, 628 (41%) remained through 31 March 2004 (570 in the centers and 58 in the protection network). The remaining 901 children left the Program: 12.8% were reintegrated with their families; 28.3% left the Program before completion; 13.3% moved forward to the Ministry of the Interior Reintegration Program; and 4.6% graduated from the Program when reaching adult age (18 years old) and did not receive the CODA certification. It is noteworthy that, proportionally, the largest increase during this quarter happened with the children who moved from the ICBF Program to the Interior Ministry Reintegration Program. This refers to those who reached adult age and were certified by the CODA (58.6%). The decrease in the number of children reintegrated to their families, compared to the previous quarter, was due to the adjustment that had to be made to the information during this quarter. This was due to a mistake we made during the previous quarterly report when, instead of adding up the number of children who were *reintegrated* to their families, we added up the number of children that *attended* the encounters. In addition, the follow-up activities by the CROs have made it possible to determine that many youngsters are living in the cities independently because they cannot return to their families.

Table 3: Children who joined the program by gender (quarter)

| Month | Female | | Male | | Total Month |
|--------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|
| | Q | % | Q | % | Q |
| January | 17 | 27.4% | 45 | 72.6% | 62 |
| February | 23 | 46.0% | 27 | 54.0% | 50 |
| March | 16 | 38.1% | 26 | 61.9% | 42 |
| TOTAL | 56 | 36.4% | 98 | 63.6% | 154 |

During the January – March quarter 154 children joined the Program: 56 girls and 98 boys. There was a 2.4% increase in the number of girls compared to the previous quarter when these reached 34%. Also, there is a downward tendency in the number of boys, who dropped from 62 in January to 42 in March.

Graph 3: Children assisted by gender (cumulative)



Of the 1,529 boys and girls who have joined the Program, 70.8% are boys (1,082) and 28.2% are girls (447). During this quarter there was a slight increase in the percentage of girls who joined the Program compared to the previous quarter when the girls represented 28.4% of the total minors demobilized from the armed conflict.

Graph 4: Program admissions by age and gender (cumulative)

Graph 4 shows the breakdown by age and gender of the 1,529 children who have joined the Program. The same tendency during the previous quarters continues because children demobilized from the armed conflict is greater at age 16 and 17. 925 youngsters in this age group have received assistance. The scale continues to decrease in ages 14 and 15 and is cut off at age 18. There is a group for which there is no record because they received assistance when the ICBF did not yet have the information system designed by the Program.

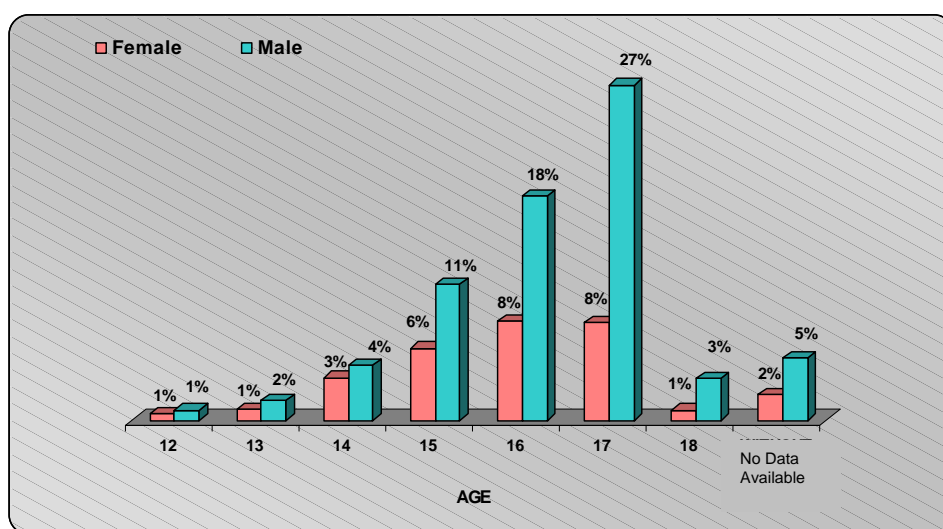


Table 4: Incoming children by age and gender (quarter)

| Incoming Children by Age and Gender (Jan - Mar 2004) | | | | | |
|---|-----------|--------------|-----------|--------------|------------|
| Age | Female | | Male | | Total |
| | Q | % | Q | % | |
| 12 | 3 | 1.9% | 1 | 0.6% | 4 |
| 13 | 2 | 1.3% | 1 | 0.6% | 3 |
| 14 | 5 | 3.2% | 7 | 4.5% | 12 |
| 15 | 10 | 6.5% | 15 | 9.7% | 25 |
| 16 | 16 | 10.4% | 23 | 14.9% | 39 |
| 17 | 19 | 12.3% | 46 | 29.9% | 65 |
| 18 | 1 | 0.6% | 5 | 3.2% | 6 |
| Total | 56 | 36.4% | 98 | 63.6% | 154 |

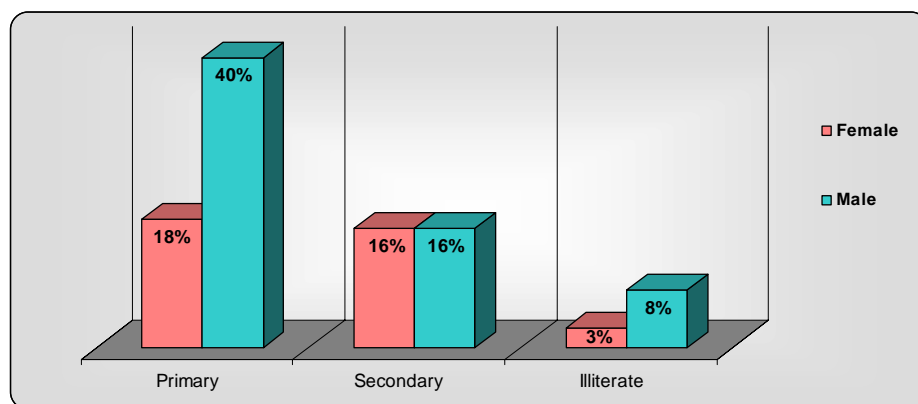
Table 4 shows the breakdown of the 154 children who joined the Program during this quarter by age and gender. The tendency of youngsters 17 years old, boys and girls alike, being the ones that most decide to disengage from the armed conflicts remains. However, among the children demobilized from the armed conflict, girls are the ones that disengage at an earlier age.

Table 5: Incoming children by education level and gender (quarter)

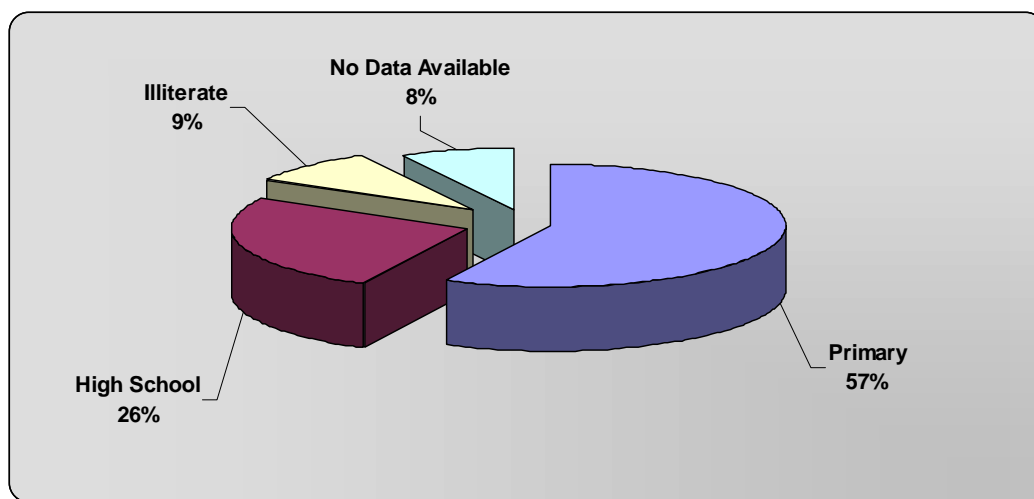
| Incoming Children By Education Level And Gender (Jan - Mar 2004) | | | | | |
|---|-----------|--------------|-----------|--------------|------------|
| Grade | Female | | Male | | Total |
| | Q | % | Q | % | Q |
| Elementary | 27 | 30.7% | 61 | 69.3% | 88 |
| High school | 25 | 50.0% | 25 | 50.0% | 50 |
| Illiterate | 4 | 25.0% | 12 | 75.0% | 16 |
| Total | 56 | 36.4% | 98 | 63.6% | 154 |

Table 5 shows the education level of the boys and girls who joined the Program during this quarter. 57.1% of the children have some elementary school education, 32.5% have some degree of high school education, and 10.4% have not received any formal education whatsoever. Comparing boys to girls the table shows that girls have a higher education level than boys: 44.6% of the girls had some level of high school education while 25.5% of the boys had achieved this.

Graph 5: Incoming children by education level and gender (quarter)

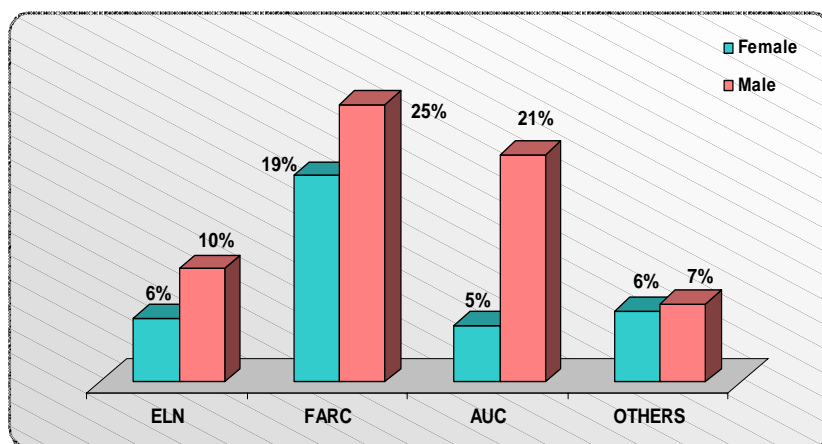


Graph 6: Incoming children by educational level (quarter)



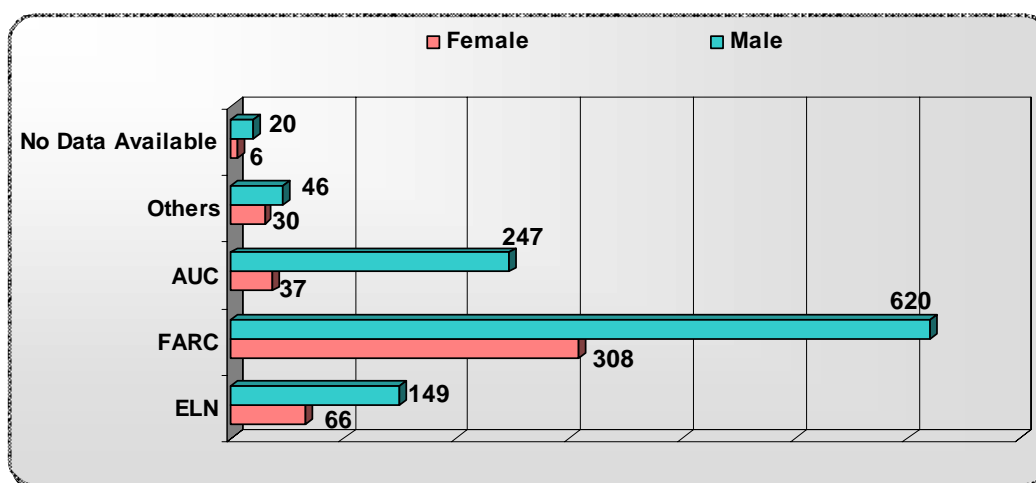
Graph 6 shows cumulative data on the schooling level of the children who joined the Program. 875 had some level of elementary education (57%), 397 had made it to some level of high school (26%) and 137 were illiterate (9%). There is almost no difference compared to the previous quarter's cumulative data.

Graph 7: Demobilization by armed group and gender (quarter)



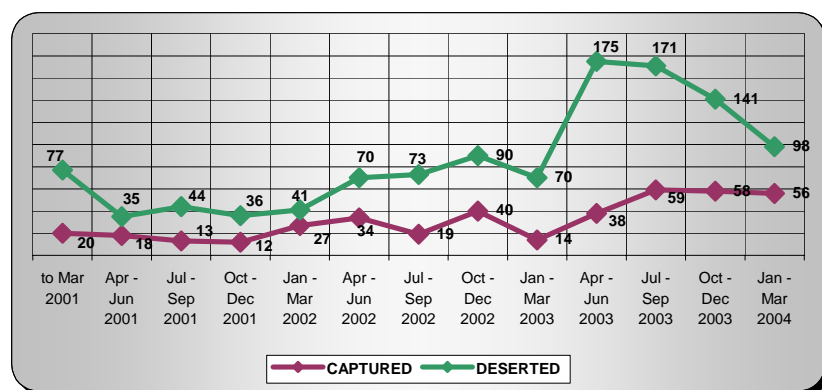
Graph 7 shows the illegal armed groups from which the children came. 68 belonged to the FARC (39 boys and 29 girls), 40 belonged to the AUC (32 boys and 8 girls), 25 to the ELN (16 boys and 9 girls), and 21 belonged to other minority illegal groups (10 boys and 11 girls). The 61% increase registered in the number of children demobilized from minority illegal groups during this quarter, compared to the previous quarter, is noteworthy.

Graph 8: Demobilization by armed group and gender (cumulative)

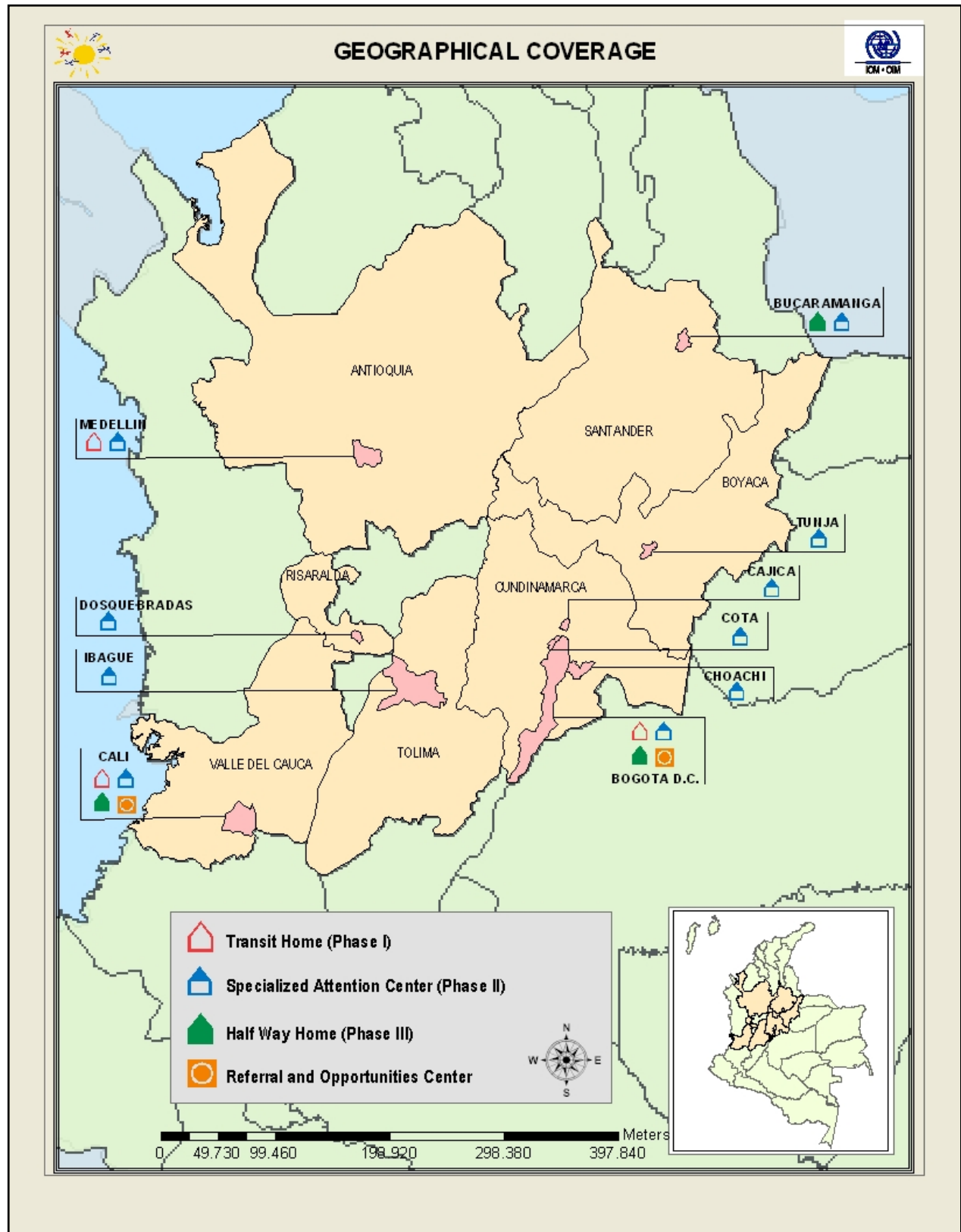


60.7% of the children who have joined the Program come from the FARC; 18.6% belonged to the AUC, 14% came from the ELN; and 5% came from other minority groups. There is no data available for 1.7% of the children.

Graph 9: Type of Demobilization by quarter: captured vs. deserted



Graph 9 shows the disengagement figures since the beginning of the Program through March 2004. During the last few quarters the number of children captured is similar. However, the number of children who have voluntarily deserted has dropped continuously with 175 a year ago and 98 during this quarter (44% decrease).



V. PROGRAM STATUS BY COMPONENT

1. PREVENTION

1.1 Synergies developed

The Program has developed synergies with Colombian Government institutions, civil society organizations, and international cooperation agencies, as follows:

GOC

- ✓ Office of the President of Colombia
- ✓ Cauca Departmental Government
- ✓ Huila Departmental Government
- ✓ Meta Departmental Government
- ✓ Mayors' offices in Cajibío, La Vega, Santander de Quilichao and Totoró (Cauca); Bahía Solano, Beté, Nóvita and Puerto Echeverri (Chocó); La Palma, La Peña, Nimaima Quipile (Cundinamarca) and Barrancabermeja.
- ✓ The Colombian Family Welfare Institute (ICBF)
- ✓ Luis Carlos Galán Institute
- ✓ Municipal Human Rights Ombudsman's Office in Chocó
- ✓ Human Rights Ombudsman's Office
- ✓ Municipal Technical Assistance Units (*Unidades Municipales de Asistencia Técnica* [UMATA])

Civil Society Organizations

- ✓ Cauca Community Projects Association (*Asociación de Proyectos Comunitarios del Cauca* [APC])
- ✓ Dos Mundos Foundation
- ✓ Ciudad Don Bosco in Medellín
- ✓ Don Bosco Center in Cali
- ✓ Cauca Indigenous Councils (*Cabildos*)
- ✓ *Cajas de Compensación Familiar*
- ✓ *Empresa Petrolera Oleoducto Central S.A*

International Cooperation

- ✓ UNICEF
- ✓ IPEC-ILO Program
- ✓ UNDP – Friendly Hands (*Manos Amigas*)
- ✓ Canadian Embassy

1.2. Workplan Progress

| OBJECTIVE # 1: Present proposals to potential counterparts for discussion, review, allotment of funds and inclusion in regional plans to prevent children from engaging in the armed conflict. | |
|---|---|
| Results | Activities |
| 1. The prevention proposal has been implemented through regional operation plans designed in 13 departments (54 municipalities) | <p>1.1 The prevention proposal was presented before the team responsible for the ICBF Program. A joint work plan was designed that includes the exchange of a working methodology for the involvement and coordination of actions at a local level.</p> <p>1.2 The Government of Canada approved the proposal for a prevention program with UNICEF in 16 municipalities of Antioquia, Cauca and Magdalena Medio.</p> <p>1.3 Synergies have been established with different local agencies to include child recruitment prevention into the development plans of the departments Huila and Meta and in the municipality of Barrancabermeja.</p> |
| OBJECTIVE # 2: Identify, in a participatory manner, the risk factors that cause children to join insurgent groups and promote preventive strategies in the selected municipalities. | |
| Results | Activities |
| 1. Vulnerability and risk assessment maps were prepared in 54 municipalities in 13 departments. | <p>1.1 The risk assessment maps of 26 municipalities and 7 departments have been completed. During this quarter 788 school children of the municipalities of Nimaima, Quipile, La Peña and La Palma have participated in 48 risk assessment map and youth leadership workshops. 20 projects were designed in areas such as sports, environment, business, art, culture, academic and research.</p> <p>1.2 Strategies to disseminate the risk assessment map methodology in other areas of the country have been designed. The methodology includes the conceptual framework, the purposes, mechanisms for the implementation of the Risk Vulnerability Map, and a motivational video. These tools will also be used to disseminate the methodology during the training processes.</p> <p>1.3 Systems have been created for the implementation and evaluation of the methodology in 21 municipalities of seven departments. These are included in a paper which has provided elements to adjust the methodology and the implementation strategies (CD attached with the report on the systems created).</p> <p>1.4 Guidebooks and other material have been designed on the risk and protective factors. These are directed at institutional agents and individuals responsible for caring for the children and will be distributed during the risk assessment map workshops.</p> |

| OBJECTIVE # 3: Develop a strategy to prevent child abuse and domestic violence at a local level. | |
|--|--|
| Results | Activities |
| 1. 1,800 community leaders and teachers have been trained in reconciliation, conflict management, family counseling, child-rearing patterns and on the law about domestic violence | <p>1.1 Actions have been initiated for the implementation of projects in four municipalities where the risk assessment maps have determined that domestic violence is a factor that causes child engagement in the armed conflict (Pitalito, Mocoa, Cimitarra and Puerto Wilches). These projects have an estimated coverage of 490 children and 760 parents.</p> <p>1.2 A joint action plan was defined by the IOM and the ICBF Make Peace (<i>Haz Paz</i>) Program for prevention and care procedures for domestic violence. This plan includes a national workshop about innovative experiences regarding the prevention of violence and peaceful coexistence promotion. It also considers training and intervention projects. The first activity consists of a "formation and mobilization processes for the prevention and care of domestic violence" workshop during April. It will be organized by the University of El Valle Health Research Center.</p> |
| OBJECTIVE # 4: Promote children access to and stability in the school system and in informal education programs in the selected municipalities. | |
| Results | Activities |
| 1. 500 children and youngsters have been enrolled in the school system in 26 selected municipalities. | <p>1.1 The need to carry out activities under the education component to prevent child engagement in the armed conflict was identified in the municipalities of Santander de Quilichao and La Vega in the department of Cauca. It was agreed with the families that the Program will provide 65 education kits for Santander de Quilichao children who are not part of the school system. In La Vega 180 children will be benefited through the provision of regular school materials. This will cause a direct impact on the quality of the education and in preventing school dropouts.</p> <p>1.2 Actions have been taken for the implementation of projects for the improvement of the Institutional Education Plan (PEI) in the Municipalities of Floridablanca and Girón. The number of beneficiaries is estimated at 255.</p> <p>1.3 The construction of two school huts (<i>tambo-escuelas</i>) for 75 Indigenous children in the municipality of Biakirudé (Chocó) was completed.</p> <p>1.4 16 young event monitors were trained and diverse education material on youth leadership was produced in four municipalities of Cundinamarca in order to work on the design and implementation of projects with children who attend school and other who do not. This strategy is aimed at engaging and retaining children in the school system and to prevent dropouts. The meetings with the departmental education office were resumed with the purpose of institutionalizing and expanding the project.</p> |
| 2. 600 children and youngsters who dropped out of school or are too old for their grade level enrolled in speed learning programs in 26 selected municipalities. | <p>2.1 The main risk factors related to education were identified through the implementation of the risk assessment map. During this quarter a strategy was designed, based on these findings, to engage children and youngsters into the school system.</p> <p>2.2 A strategy is being designed with the Ministry of Education and the departmental education offices give priority to the promotion of schooling among children and youngsters in the departments and municipalities that are more vulnerable to child recruitment.</p> |

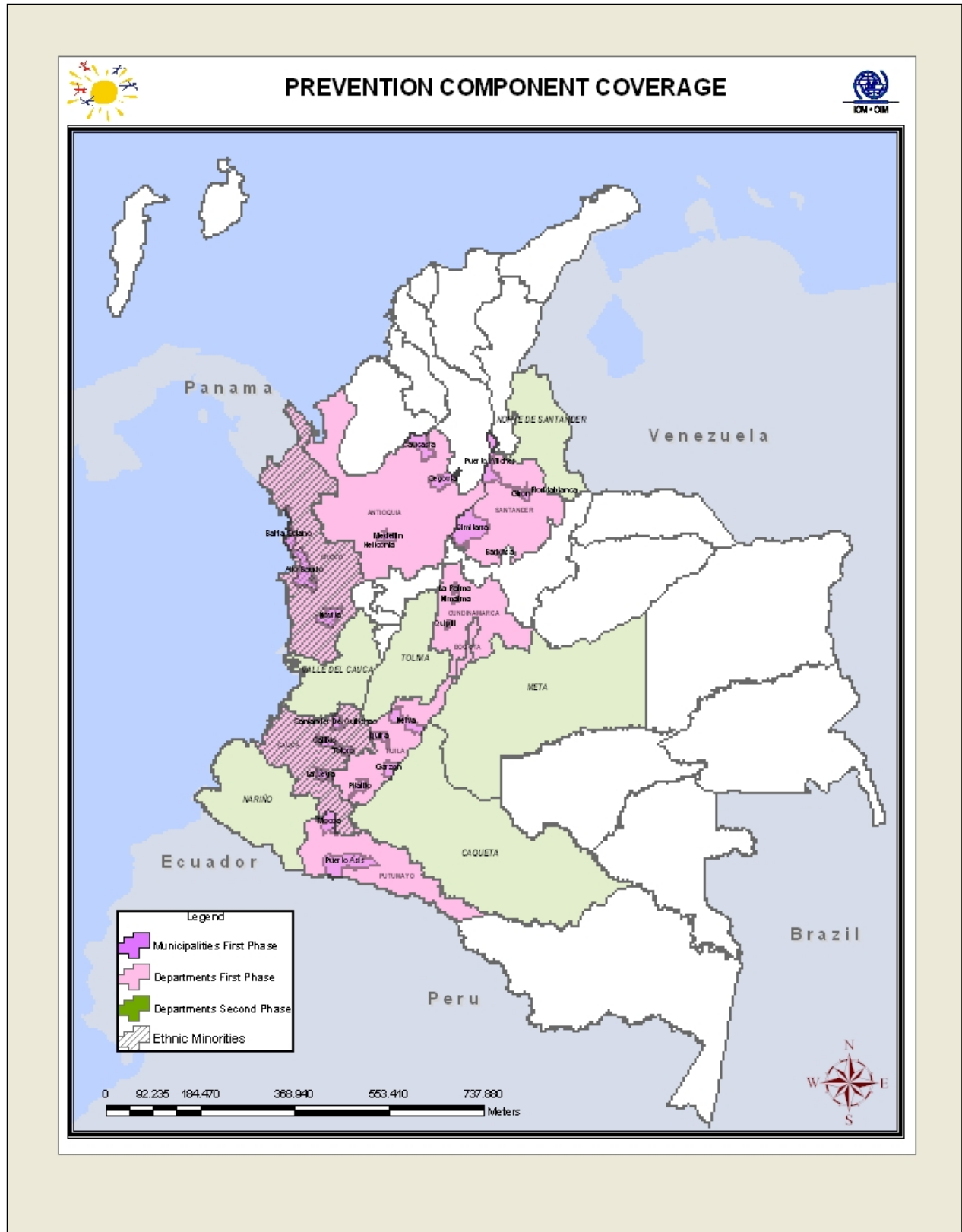
| 3. 150 youngsters enrolled in vocational training programs. | <p>3.1 The arts and crafts education project has been promoted in Medellín's 7th District, with the Ciudad Don Bosco Center through the "Friendship Operation" (<i>Operación Amistad</i>) with the purpose of motivating vulnerable youngsters to register</p> <p>3.2 129 youngsters were chosen as initial beneficiaries of the formation and training project in Medellín's 7th District: 27 in tailoring, 26 in cabinetmaking, 51 for auto repair, and 25 for welding.</p> <p>3.2 A project with the Don Bosco Center in Cali was approved to train 225 youngsters in auto repair, industrial mechanics, cabinetmaking, electricity, metal work, edging machines, automation, hairdressing, manicure and pedicure, and pre-school education.</p> |
|--|---|
| OBJECTIVE # 5: Initiate actions for income generating projects with the families of children and youngsters who are at risk of being recruited by illegal armed groups. | |
| Results | Activities |
| 1. Increased income for 150 families whose children are extremely vulnerable to recruitment. | 1.1 Actions have been taken with several implementing entities to carry out income generating projects that were identified in the risk assessment maps of the municipalities of Segovia, Barbosa, Cauca (Antioquia); Nóvita (Chocó); La Peña, Quipile, Nimaima and La Palma (Cundinamarca); Totoró (Cauca); and Iquira (Huila). Beneficiary participation including children, their families and teachers is estimated at 590. |
| OBJECTIVE # 6: Assist in the reinforcement of public policies for children by including child recruitment prevention in the agenda of agencies responsible for national, departmental and municipal planning. | |
| Results | Activities |
| 1. The topic of recruitment prevention is part of the Ten- Year Plan for Children, the National Plan to Eradicate Child Labor and the municipal development plans of the Program's selected municipalities. | <p>1.1. Meetings with the Ministry of Education were carried out and at least 8 encounters were held with the Antioquia, Santander, Valle, Boyacá, Risaralda and Bogotá municipal education offices to introduce non-conventional education strategies in their education policies directed at vulnerable population. The purpose of these methodologies is to facilitate children's access to formal education, improve their achievements and prevent dropouts.</p> <p>1.2. Two meetings with the Cundinamarca Education Office took place to share the results of the project carried out in four municipalities of this department. The objective is to involve the Education Office in the prevention initiatives in municipalities that are at a high risk identified by the Ten-Year Education Plan.</p> <p>1.3. Efforts have been coordinated with the institutions involved in the child recruitment prevention initiative with the purpose of including prevention into the national, departmental and local development plans. Furthermore an action plan for child recruitment prevention and assistance is being designed with the International Labor Organization (ILO) and the ICBF.</p> <p>1.4. Actions have been taken to implement the project in Heliconia (2 projects: 1 experimental farm and 1 project for artistic, sports and cultural education); Segovia (vocational and business training project for poultry breeding and fish farming); La Vega (2 projects: one to furnish educational material and another for artistic, sports and cultural education); Bahía Solano (artistic, cultural and sports education project); Novita (technical vocational and business training project for fish farming); and Cimitarra (child abuse and domestic violence prevention project). The mayors' offices were proactively involved in these projects by allotting funds to co-finance them.</p> |

OBJECTIVE # 7: Design and implement a national awareness and information campaign about child recruitment by insurgent groups, preventive strategies, and the responsibility of institutions and the citizenry in dealing with this problem.

| Results | Activities |
|---|--|
| 1. Four million Colombians have been made aware of the problem of child recruitment through the media and alternative means of conveying information. | <p>1.1 The presentation of the <i>Initiative for Child Recruitment Prevention</i> took place in the Maloka interactive park on January 28, 2004. There were approximately 250 attendees from government and non-government organizations and the international community. The First Lady, the director of the ICBF, the Human Rights Ombudsman, the UNICEF Director, the ILO Coordinator for the International Program for the Eradication of Child Labor, and the IOM Chief of Mission also attended. During the ceremony a statement was signed by the representatives of the initiative's member institutions.</p> <p>1.2 During the aforementioned event the TV and radio campaigns were launched and a skit was presented related to youth activities and dreams. The event received wide press coverage through the presence of the main national and international audiovisual and written media representatives.</p> <p>1.3 A TV commercial was designed in January by RCN and Caracol. According to the IBOPE 9,368,192, people saw it. Actions are underway so that the commercial is broadcasted by the National Television Commission.</p> <p>1.4 The radio campaign was designed with <i>Caracol Radio</i> and has reached approximately 5,000,000 people.</p> <p>1.5 The message "Let's prevent child engagement in the armed conflict" is being disseminated in 41 highway electronic billboards owned by Publik and located in 10 departments countrywide.</p> <p>1.6 4,000 posters and 500 booklets have been distributed among the media, government officials, NGOs and international organizations at a national, region and local level.</p> <p>1.7 The conceptual framework was designed for the radio program to be broadcasted by community radios through the UNDP Friendly Hands (<i>Manos Amigas</i>) Program. Also, a test program was designed.</p> <p>1.8 A proposal was designed to continue the child recruitment prevention initiative which includes its presentation in at least six departments (Antioquia, Valle, Santander, Meta, Huila y Cundinamarca). There is a schedule of activities for April and May. The proposal also includes activities with the media and the private sector. The regional meetings initiative has been joined by the Public Ombudsman's Office and the ILO International Child Labor Eradication Program (IPEC).</p> |

OBJECTIVE # 8: Evaluate the progress and results of the child recruitment prevention strategy.

| Results | Activities |
|---|--|
| 1. The prevention strategy is being evaluated every six months. | <p>1.1 The methodology for the risk assessment map was adjusted as a result of the evaluation of the test evaluations carried out in seven departments.</p> <p>1.2 Systems were created for the implementation of the risk assessment map in seven departments and were submitted in writing.</p> <p>1.3 The first version of a management evaluation of the assistance to ethnic minorities project in Chocó was drafted.</p> |



2. EDUCATION

2.1 Synergies Developed

The Program developed synergies with Colombian Government institutions, Civil Society Organizations and International Cooperation agencies as follows:

GOC

- ✓ ICBF – regional & local offices
- ✓ Medellín Technology Institute (*Instituto Tecnológico de Medellín*)
- ✓ Modular High School Program (long distance learning *Universidad a Distancia*)
- ✓ Ministry of the Interior
- ✓ Ministry of Education – Accelerated Learning Program
- ✓ Human Rights Ombudsman's Office, Delegate for the Rights of Children, Youth, and Women and Delegate for Indigenous People and Ethnic Minorities
- ✓ Departmental and Municipal Education Offices (Antioquia Departmental Education Office, Medellín Municipal Education and Culture Office)

Civil Society Organizations

- ✓ Program's implementing NGOs
- ✓ CAFAM
- ✓ CONFAMDI
- ✓ CAJASAN
- ✓ COMFAMA
- ✓ R. Feurstein Institute
- ✓ COMFAMILIAR
- ✓ Colegio Emiliano de los Padres Somascos
- ✓ Education for Peace Alliance (*Alianza Educación para La Paz*)
- ✓ National Indigenous Organization (*Organización Nacional Indígena*)
- ✓ Latin American Association for Human Rights (ALDHU)
- ✓ Andrés Bello Agreement (*Convenio Andres Bello*)
- ✓ Universidad Central de Bogotá – Research Department

International Cooperation

- ✓ United Nations-Special Representative of the Secretary General for Children and the Armed Conflict
- ✓ UNDP
- ✓ World Bank
- ✓ Inter-American Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)

2.2 Workplan Progress

OBJECTIVE # 1: Guide and support improvement of the education offered to youngsters in each of the Program's operating institutions.

| Results | Activities |
|--|--|
| 1. Operating institutions received guidance on the design and implementation of education models to teach ex-combatant children. | <p>1.1 During this quarter 359 slots were obtained for the children of the Program in public sector institutions. This was achieved through the joint action of the Population and Inter-Sectorial Projects Directorate (MEN-IOM Agreement), the ICBF regional centers, the municipal education offices, the implementing institutions and IOM. USAID funds are used for complementary education costs such as transportation, education supplies and academic rights).</p> <p>1.2 10 working sessions were carried out with teachers of the Centers in Medellín, Bucaramanga, Tunja and Cali to provide orientation on the new flexible education models and the availability in each municipality.</p> <p>1.3 An evaluation of the education slots required for the youngsters of the Program was made and it was presented before public education institutions of Cali, Medellín, Pereira, Tunja, Bogotá and Bucaramanga. This served as a foundation for a negotiation coordinated by the Ministry of Education with the municipal education offices, the ICBF regional centers and the IOM.</p> <p>1.4 Five working sessions with 12 education institutions of five municipalities where the Program's centers are operating were carried out to train teachers and administrative personnel on the assistance model, the profiles and the formation requirements of the children demobilized from the armed conflict.</p> <p>1.5 The process to establish a public policy and a Ministerial Resolution that regulates the education services to children demobilized from the armed conflict in all the public education institutions nationwide continues.</p> |
| 2. Technical teams in the operating centers received guidance on the development of youth educational programs. | <p>2.1 Education, logistic and learning material provided for nine CAE classrooms to support the development of education competency among the Program's children. The technical team of each CAE designed plans for the use of the classrooms to ensure adequate implementation and use of the service.</p> <p>2.2 A technical proposal is being designed for the production of three education information papers for the Tool Box directed at youngsters and teachers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Folder that will provide clear and precise information to the youngsters who join the Program on their status, rights and responsibilities and the services that will be provided. • Serialized interactive guidebook for the children that will guide them through each stage of the Program. • Methodology guidebook for the Center's facilitators and/or educators with learning and theoretical instructions for the use, implementation and development of the folder and the interactive guidebook with the youngsters. |

OBJECTIVE # 2: Improve the quality of the education component by continuously conducting evaluations of the lessons learned.

| Results | Activities |
|---|---|
| 1. Systematic assessment of the lessons learned under the education component in each center. | <p>1.1 15 technical-educational supervisory visits were made during this quarter to provide assistance to 12 teachers of the centers, to follow-up on the education plans, provide methodology orientation and gather work methodology implementation experiences for the education component.</p> <p>1.2 Evaluation processes were designed for the education practices implemented by the teachers of the Centers among the children. Successful and significant practices were identified that will ensure a better development of the education processes.</p> <p>1.3 A research project was designed with the Universidad Central in Bogotá on the <i>“The role of art in the education models, practices and know-how for special and/or vulnerable and demobilized from the armed conflict population.”</i> The project will provide orientation to the teachers in the centers and it will be useful for the training processes aimed at improving their performance.</p> |
| 2. Evaluation of the personnel implementing the educational component. | 2.1 Preliminary actions were taken to measure the performance of teachers responsible of the education component in the Centers. |

OBJECTIVE # 3: Train personnel in charge of the education component in the Program's centers.

| Results | Activities |
|---|--|
| 1. Twenty teachers trained on special aspects of the work with demobilized children. | 1.1 85 teachers in charge of monitoring the youngsters in the Centers were trained. The goal was surpassed |
| 2. The professionals' training needs were identified and supported to facilitate appropriate management of the education component. | 2.1 A national workshop was conducted on <i>“Education Services to School Children Demobilized from the Armed Conflict”</i> that was attended by 45 individuals among which were employees of the municipal education offices in Pereira, Cali, Medellín, Tunja and Bucaramanga; representatives of the ICBF regional and central office; directors, academic coordinators and teachers of the public schools that have received youngsters demobilized from the armed conflict; teachers of the centers and MEN and IOM officials. The following activities were carried out during the workshop: review of the education policy for children demobilized from the armed conflict was held; education orientation was provided; the procedures for public education were disseminated; and local teams were created for inter-institutional work. |

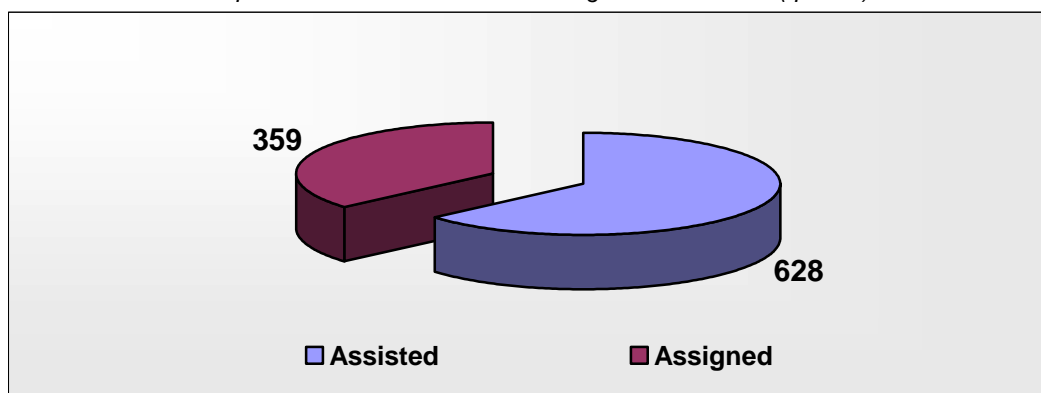
| OBJECTIVE # 4: Guarantee that youngsters joining the Program can exercise their right to education. | |
|---|--|
| Results | Activities |
| 1. 100% of the youngsters in the Program in an appropriate plan within the education system. | <p>1.1 39 formal education scholarships were granted during this quarter: 14 for youngsters provided assistance at the Referral and Opportunities Center (CRO), 17 for youngsters reintegrated with their families, 4 to youngsters who live by themselves, and 4 to youngsters located in the ICBF Protection Network including two who are members of the family unit of a girl who was reintegrated</p> <p>1.2 359 school slots were assigned to youngsters of the Program through the municipal education offices in Cali, Bucaramanga, Medellín, Pereira and Tunja.</p> <p>1.3 Actions were taken with the departmental education office in Bogotá to obtain 206 slots for the children in the centers located in this city.</p> <p>1.4 Progress has been made in the design of a database to monitor the administration and implementation process and the quantitative and qualitative characteristics of the Program's Scholarship Fund. The objective is to ensure better organization, operation, control and follow-up. The goal is to create an information system on the beneficiary population, types of scholarships, amounts (costs center), general characteristics and monitoring of the scholarships granted.</p> |
| 2. Inter-institutional coordination promoted by the Program to improve ex-combatant children's opportunities to exercise their right to education thus guaranteeing Program sustainability. | <p>2.1 A number of inter-institutional coordination meetings were carried out with the participation of the MEN, the ICBF and IOM to implement the action plan through which the Colombian Government takes responsibility of educating the youngsters who join the Program as of 2004.</p> <p>2.2 Design and implementation of joint visits by the ICBF, the IOM and the MEN to the municipal education offices in Cali, Pereira, Medellín, Tunja and Bucaramanga to obtain the slots for the 2004 school year for the children of the Program.</p> <p>2.3 The Inter-institutional Coordination Committee, comprised by the ALDHU, the Human Rights Ombudsman's Office and the IOM, met on a monthly basis. This committee is responsible for the implementation of the <i>"Support to Indigenous communities to prevent the risks of the armed conflict among the child and teenage population and to invigorate Indigenous social control systems to prevent child recruitment; strengthen special Indigenous jurisdiction; demobilization route for Indigenous children"</i> project.</p> <p>2.4 Involvement in the project and participation in the National Seminar and the regional workshops that will be carried out from April to June was agreed upon with 56 Indigenous organizations. A teacher was hired to assist in the methodology and educational design for these training programs.</p> <p>2.5 An inter-institutional team was created with the Human Rights Ombudsman's Office and ALDHU to design and implement the media plan and the communication strategy for the Indigenous Demobilization Route project. The <i>"A world for the Yaroni People"</i> guidebook was reviewed and adjusted.</p> |

2.3 Figures of the education component

Table 6: Cumulative slots –Municipal and Departmental Education Offices

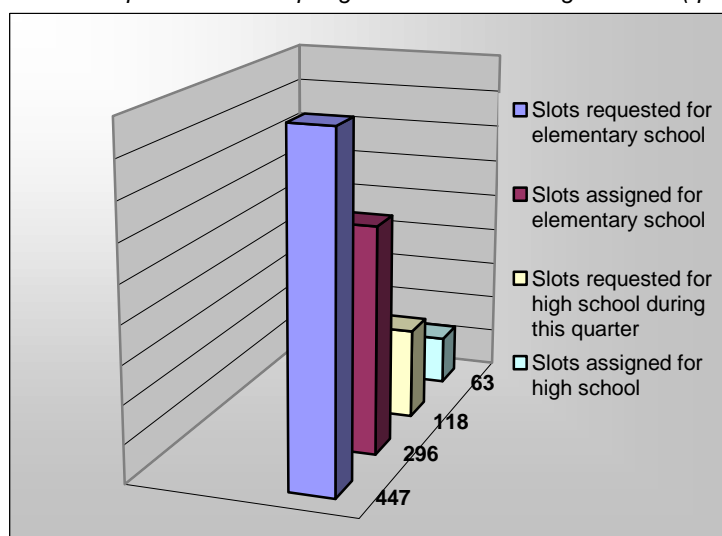
| Education Services – MEN slots - Municipal and Departmental Education Offices | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Regional | Slots per territorial institution | Grade | | Institution | Flexible Methodology |
| | | Elementary | Middle and High School | | |
| Cundinamarca | 47 | 20 | | Luis Amigó | High School per cycles |
| | | | 2 | Antonio Nariño | High School per cycles |
| | | 1 | | | Basic Literacy |
| | | 18 | 6 | Escuela de Parcelas | Elementary |
| Bogotá | 206 | 151 | | Location to be defined | Elementary and High School per cycles |
| | | | 55 | Location to be defined | Elementary and High School per cycles |
| Bucaramanga | 106 | 58 | | Aurelio Martínez Mutis | CAFAM Methodology |
| | | 48 | | Las Américas | CAFAM Methodology |
| Risaralda (dos quebradas) | 30 | 24 | | IME | Accelerated learning |
| | | | 6 | COMFAMILIAR | High School per cycles |
| Valle | 78 | 18 | | José Caicedo y Cuervo | Accelerated learning |
| | | 3 | | Normal de Señoritas | CAFAM Methodology |
| | | | 17 | José Ma. Vivas | High School per cycles |
| Tunja | 26 | 17 | 9 | Julio Sieber School | Elementary and High School per cycles |
| Antioquia | 72 | 16 | | Gerardo Valencia Cano | Accelerated learning |
| | | 33 | 23 | ITM | Elementary and High School per cycles |
| Total slots assigned | 359 | | | | |
| Total Slots Per Level | | 447 | 118 | | |
| Total Slot Requirements During the quarter | | 565 | | | |

Graph 10: Children assisted vs. assigned school slots (quarter)



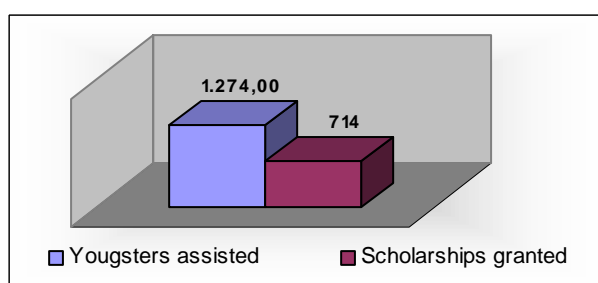
During this quarter 628 children were provided assistance and the total demand of slots for education was established at 565 for the CAEs and half way homes countrywide. By March 31, the Ministry of Education has found 359 slots through the departmental education offices of Cali, Medellín, Bucaramanga, Tunja and Pereira in 13 public schools that have flexible education models.

Graph 11: Demand per grade levels Vs. Assigned Slots (quarter)



During the quarter 447 applications for elementary school and 118 for high school were submitted. However, the municipal and departmental education offices only covered 359 slots of which 78% were located in public schools and 15% in private institutions financed by the Medellín and Dosquebradas municipal education offices. By the end of the quarter the total number of slots assigned for elementary school covered 66.2% of the requirements (296 children) and 53.4% of the high school requirements (63 youngsters).

Graph 12: Scholarships granted vs. assisted children (March 2002 – March 2004)

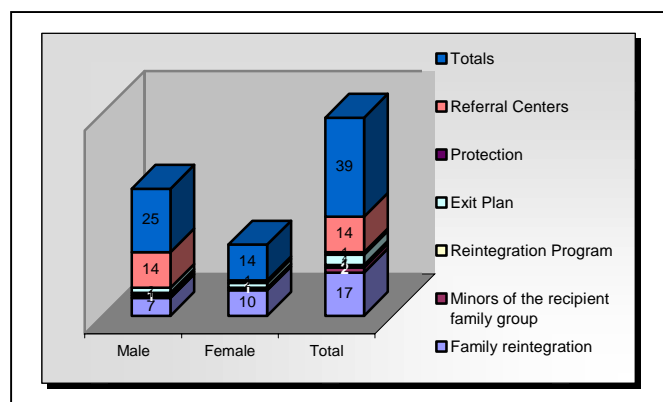


During this quarter 39 scholarships were granted which represent 84% of the total scholarship applications received during this period. The scholarships covered 43.5% of the children who are the under family reintegration and 35.9% of the youngsters in the coaching and feedback homes through the Referral and Opportunities Center. The Coaching Houses (*Casas de Acompañamiento*) are similar to the half way homes. However, they are financed by the Reintegration Program to prevent the youngsters who have graduated from the ICBF Program from passing to the shelters hired by the Reintegration Program.

Table 7 - Scholarships by phase or location (cumulative)

| Phase or Location | Mar - Dec 2002 | Jan - Jun 2003 | Jul- Sep 2003 | Oct - Dec 2003 | Jan-Mar 2004 |
|--|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|
| HAT | 45 | 131 | 59 | 0 | 0 |
| CAE | 6 | 16 | 152 | 0 | 0 |
| Half Way Home | 7 | 9 | 35 | 0 | 0 |
| Family Reintegration | 0 | 1 | 16 | 7 | 17 |
| Prevention-Reintegration Minors in the Recipient Family Group | 0 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 2 |
| Foster Home | 0 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| External School Reinforcement Projects- HAT-CAE-Family Reintegration-Foster Home | 0 | 0 | 0 | 83 | 0 |
| Projects for Formal Education in the CAEs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 82 | 0 |
| Prevention – Containment | | | | 12 | 0 |
| Integration Program | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Exit Plan | | | | | 4 |
| Protection | | | | | 1 |
| Referral Center | | | | | 14 |
| Total scholarships per period | 58 | 167 | 266 | 184 | 39 |
| Total scholarships granted | 714 | | | | |

Graph 13: Scholarships by exit system (cumulative)



64% of scholarships were assigned to youngsters who have graduated from the Program; 64% to males and 36% to females. During this quarter 17 scholarships were granted to youngsters who have been reintegrated to their families (7 males and 10 females). Furthermore, 14 scholarships were granted to youngsters (males) of the Coaching Homes through the Referral Center. The remaining 20% corresponds to scholarships granted to youngsters assisted through other systems by the ICBF Protection Network (6 males and 4 females).

3. IOM - ICBF PROGRAM STRENGTHENING

3.1 Synergies developed

The Program developed synergies with agencies from the Colombian Government and Civil Society Organizations, as follows:

GOC

- ✓ ICBF-Regional Offices
- ✓ Nacional University
- ✓ Ministry of Education
- ✓ Chía IDR

Civil Society Organizations

- ✓ Colombian Red Cross
- ✓ Prever Foundation
- ✓ CERLALC
- ✓ Pasos del Orinoco
- ✓ Juan Bosco Corporation - Comunicar Corporation
- ✓ RCN, Caracol and Regional Media
- ✓ Pieter Foundation
- ✓ Excombatant Women's Association (*Colectivo de Mujeres Ex-combatientes*)
- ✓ La Barca - Benposta - Forjar
- ✓ Luis Amigó Youth Orientation Center (*Centro de Orientación Juvenil Luis Amigó*)
- ✓ Claret Homes - Don Bosco
- ✓ Padres Somascos
- ✓ Enséñame a Pescar - Punto de Luz
- ✓ CONALJUDES Social Projection (*Proyección Social CONALJUDES*)
- ✓ Chamber of Commerce
- ✓ Profamilia
- ✓ Olympic Weights Academy (*Escuela de Pesas Olímpicas*)
- ✓ INCCA University
- ✓ De la Salle University
- ✓ Bogotá Andean University Foundation (*Fundación Universitaria Andina de Bogotá*)
- ✓ Pereira Andean University Foundation (*Fundación Universitaria Andina de Pereira*)
- ✓ Colombian Optometrists Federation (*Federación Colombiana de Optómetras*)

OBJECTIVE # 1: Strengthen the institutional capacity in terms of reaching consensus on implementation criteria for health, artistic-recreation, political-ethical and therapeutic projects in order to provide services to youngsters demobilized from the armed conflict. This is accomplished from a psychosocial perspective to improve the both the quality of the services and the social integration process.

| Results | Activities |
|--|---|
| 1. Design and implementation of a psychosocial model for the assistance provided to youngsters demobilized from the armed conflict. | <p>1.1 The following progress has been made on the development of a psychosocial assistance model:</p> <p>Three papers resulted from the first phase:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of the characteristics of the children demobilized from the armed conflict in the ICBF program • Analysis of the psychosocial coaching and feedback (characteristics, weaknesses, strengths). • Conceptual and methodology objectives of the modules. <p>1.2 An analysis was drafted of the emotional condition of the children of the Program based on the experiences of the professionals involved in the process and on the importance of the children's engagement and disengagement experience obtained from their life stories.</p> |
| 2. The psychosocial assistance model was fully implemented in the Centers in the health, culture, arts recreation political-ethical ⁴⁰ and therapeutic areas. | <p>2.1 The following activities were carried out under the health component In coordination with Profamilia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistance to the children in the centers continued via the use of health brigades, evaluation, admissions tests and specialized assistance on sexual and reproductive education. • 20 workshops were carried out on sexual and reproductive education in nine CAEs and three HATs with the participation of 356 youngsters: 254 males and 102 females. The most relevant issues discussed during the workshops were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Myths and taboos regarding sexuality. ➤ Physical and emotional changes during adolescence. ➤ Self examination of the breasts and most frequent sexually transmitted diseases. ➤ The roles of young men and women. ➤ Sexual and reproductive rights. • On average 184 youngsters were provided assistance each month through Profamilia, including laboratory tests at the time of admission of the youngsters into the Program. • 177 doctor appointments for birth control methods support, 880 laboratory tests (miscellaneous tests, X rays, cervical smear tests, ultrasound scan, among others), 86 appointments with specialists and 611 dental appointments⁴¹ in all the regions where the Program operates. There were 92 emergency consultations. • 241 youngsters of the total 628 assisted became Sisben members. • A sexuality guidebook was designed which, in very simple terms, provides the youngsters with clear concepts on sexual and reproductive health. The guidebook will be tested next month among a group of youngsters and afterwards it will be sent for printing. <p>2.2 The first aid training project taught by the National Red Cross continues. During this quarter 4 workshops were conducted where 210 individuals were trained including technical team members and youngsters. They were instructed on first aid and natural disaster assistance techniques and tools.</p> <p>A strategy was designed to conduct an ophthalmology health campaign. Actions were carried out with universities and specialized institutions for their participation in this strategy. A support network has been created for this campaign with institutions such as the De la Salle University, the Bogotá Andean University Foundation, the Pereira Andean University Foundation, and the Colombian Optometrists Federation. Coordination with the ICBF was made to conduct this campaign in April.</p> |

⁴⁰ Non-violent communications and exercising relationships that build peace, etc.

| Results | Activities |
|---|--|
| <p>2.The psychosocial assistance model was fully implemented in the Centers in the health, culture, arts recreation political-ethical⁴² and therapeutic areas.</p> | <p>2.3 The second training proposal for psychoactive substances management (SPA in Spanish) was evaluated. This proposal includes three actions as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training and institutional planning for assistance for SPA consumption in the centers located in Tunja and Medellín which did not participate in the first phase of the project. • Follow-up of the plans carried out in the centers. An action plan was designed during the first part of this project. • Design of the guidelines for the assistance to SPA consumers for all the centers of the Program. <p>2.4 Regarding the cultural component:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The <i>Cerlalc</i> research on the cultural factors for child engagement in the armed conflict was completed. The following activities were carried out: Writing and analysis of seven life stories. Identification and description of the cultural analysis categories which served as the basis for the results document and the issues of interest gathered by the study. This will help in conducting activities with the youngsters on relevant issues of their cultures which should be incorporated into the work for the restoration of their rights. The following issues are noteworthy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Symbolic references. ➢ The concept of nation. ➢ Moral issues. ➢ The engagement/disengagement change process from the youngsters' standpoint. ➢ Rituals. • A town meeting on myths and rituals was conducted with the participation of four experts. 35 individuals participated in the meeting including members of the technical teams of the centers and of the ICBF. Some relevant issues brought up by the experts during the town meeting were the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Acknowledgement of spirituality as an important part of the lives of human beings, and of the lives of the youngsters. Thus, this aspect should be included in the overall assistance plans. ➢ Satanic rituals result from the youngsters' need to be acknowledged. ➢ Rituals are daily activities. They are carried out permanently and they constitute a cultural representation for the youngsters. • The cultural project on music and knowing the city in the Juan Bosco Half Way Home in Cali continued to be developed. The cultural project on music, theatre and dance in the La Guapa CAE in Bogotá continues. 45 youngsters are participating in these projects. |

⁴¹ Dato tomado de registro Proceso de Inserción Social ICBF.

⁴² Non-violent communications and exercising relationships that build peace, etc.

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>2.The psychosocial assistance model was fully implemented in the Centers in the health, culture, arts recreation political-ethical⁴³ and therapeutic areas.</p> | <p>2.5 Regarding the awareness and dissemination component:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A video clip was made that will be included in the CD “Our Song” (<i>Un Canto Nuestro</i>) with eight artists who participated in the song. • A social awareness strategy, coordinated with the ICBF, is being designed. This includes the public introduction of the CD and the video clip via a massive concert and national dissemination activities. This will also be coordinated with the ICBF. |
| | <p>2.6 Regarding the sports component:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actions have been taken with the Colombian Sports and Recreation Institute (COLDEPORTES in Spanish) for the inclusion of the Program’s children in their departmental and municipal projects. • The most appropriate sports offering according to gender, age and location is being evaluated. • The second phase of the project in Chia (Cundinamarca) and Bogotá for the cultural and labor integration of 11 youngsters has been initiated so that they may become sports and community trainers. The activities and the sports internships are mostly for soccer, weightlifting and recreation in the bicycle paths of Chia. |



Youngsters during sports internship programs



Youngsters during training of trainers

3.3 Figures of the ICBF Strengthening Component

Table 8: Health services provided (quarter)

| Services | # of assisted by services | % by number of children assisted |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| General medicine | 552 | 87.8% |
| Consultation on birth control methods | 177 | 28.1% |
| Laboratory tests and others | 628 | 100%* |
| Appointments with specialists | 86 | 13.6% |
| Emergencies | 92 | 14.6% |
| Dental appointments | 611 | 97.2% ⁴⁴ |
| Sisben members | 241 | 38.3% |
| Total children assisted (628) | | |

Table 8 shows the access to health services accomplished during the quarter for the children of the Program. Even though Sisben membership has increased by 38% it is very important to increase the dissemination of the agreement reached with the Social Protection Ministry on the health benefits for the children demobilized from the armed conflict among the IPSS (private health insurance companies). Furthermore, the affiliation to the Sisben and to the Subsidized System Administrators (ADRs in Spanish) of 90% of the children of the Program has yet to be achieved.

- *In these cases the fact that the same child could have received assistance several times

⁴³ Non-violent communications and exercising relationships that build peace, etc.

⁴⁴ En estos casos se debe tener en cuenta que un mismo niño pudo recibir la atención en varias ocasiones, en el caso de laboratorio clínico recibir la toma de varios exámenes y en el caso de Odontología varios controles para tratamiento.

OBJECTIVE # 2 Implementation of a monitoring and evaluation system to follow-up on the services provided to the youngsters during the different stages of the program.

| Results | Activities |
|--|---|
| 1. An integrated monitoring and evaluation system implemented in all the centers. This makes possible follow-up of the situation of each one of the youngsters in the Program. | <p>Activities to analyze and design an information system have been conducted as follows:</p> <p>1.1 Definition of the modules that will comprise the information system:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Module 1: Registers the Program's incoming and outgoing youngsters Module 2: Registers guidelines and standards for the assistance provided to the youngsters. Module 3: Registers the assistance provided to the youngsters. Module 4: System administration and security. <p>1.2 A document on the system's scope was drafted. This includes the definition of the purpose and scope of each module in the system; module validation and function for the IOM and the ICBF.</p> <p>1.3 Gathering information from the ICBF's slots availability center and users interface; screen design; preparation of a documents on the requirements for module 1 "Registers Program's incoming and outgoing youngsters"; review of the document by the IOM technical team.</p> <p>1.4 Drafting of the document "Conceptual framework and content of Module 2: "Registers guidelines and standards for the assistance provided to the youngsters" (components by areas of rights, objectives according to phases and components, assistance and coverage indicators).</p> |

OBJECTIVE # 3 Increase coverage in each of the Program's stages (temporary home, specialized assistance center, half way home).

| Results | Activities |
|---|--|
| 1. Increased the number of institutions (5) and the slots available (144) to provide assistance to the youngsters | <p>1.1 During this quarter no new centers were created for the Program (HAT, CAE, CJ). However, assistance to the youngsters has continued through: five temporary homes, three in Bogotá, 1 in Cali and 1 in Medellín (135 youngsters); 15 specialized assistance centers (400 youngsters); and 4 half way homes (53 youngsters). This gives a total of 24 institutions with an installed capacity for 588 slots.</p> <p>1.2 The Ibagué (Tolima) CAE was closed. This CAE had technical and operative difficulties in handling groups of youngsters. IOM and ICBF officials met with the implementing institution (<i>Sociedad Salesiana</i>) in Ibagué to establish an improvement and support plan for the CAE so that it could continue operating. However, the implementing institution declined to continue operating the center.</p> <p>1.3 Technical guidelines were designed for two new assistance systems for the Program in order to achieve a greater installed capacity for further availability in case of a contingency or as a result of specific situations of the youngsters.</p> <p>1.4 One of these systems is the <i>Foster Home</i> where a family, which is selected and trained according to technical criteria, voluntarily receives and provides assistance to a child demobilized from the armed conflict for the time that the law establishes when a minor should be under protection. One of the characteristics of this system is the creation of a psychosocial team (psychologist, social worker, family counselor) that will provide assistance, coaching and feedback to the families so that they may receive and provide assistance to the youngsters. This system will be tested in Armenia by hiring 20 foster homes to provide assistance to 40 youngsters. The Program will finance the operation of this system during the six month trial period. The ICBF will be responsible for this program in the future.</p> |

| <p>1. Increased the number of institutions (5) and the slots available (144) to provide assistance to the youngsters</p> | <p>1.5 The other system is the Conditional Subsidy for families who have children demobilized from the armed conflict. This initiative will start in Medellín with the 48 youngsters who were handed over by the paramilitary group <i>Bloque Cacique Nutibara</i> (BCN). The ICBF, the UNICEF, and the IOM have put together the technical guidelines for this system, which favors assistance to the youngsters by their own families and communities. The families will be provided financial support to prepare them and have them commit themselves to their protection duties. The Program will also provide employment integration opportunities for the youngsters demobilized from the armed conflict.</p> <p>1.6 Two CAEs are expected to be opened during the next quarter; one in Medellín and another one in Cali for the assistance of 60 youngsters. Furthermore, the foster homes will provide 40 slots in 20 homes. This will provide an installed capacity for 688 children.</p> |
|---|--|
| <p>OBJECTIVE # 4: Continue the technical and administrative strengthening of the institutions that are currently providing the services.</p> | |
| Results | Activities |
| <p>1. Assistance provided to the youngsters strengthened⁴⁵ at a technical and administrative level.</p> | <p>1.1 The second phase of the consulting services for institutional strengthening was completed. Institutional analyses were made of each of the operators of the Program with regard to their administrative, financial and technical situation. Field trips, document review and interviews with ICBF officials and personnel who work at the centers were carried out. The youngsters participated in a survey on the degree of satisfaction with the services received.</p> <p>1.2 Five workshops to be conducted during working days are being organized for the design of Improvement Plans for each of the institutions in the regional departments (Bogotá, Antioquia, Valle, Risaralda, Boyacá and Santander). The projections for the next phases include two activities: formation and training with the technical teams of the centers and of the ICBF through specific tools for institutional strengthening; and implementation of the improvement plans.</p> <p>1.3 Two workshops were carried out: one for IOM internal planning and the other one with the ICBF. The purpose of these workshops was to socialize all the activities carried out in the framework of the Program by both the ICBF and IOM. Furthermore, a joint action plan for 2004 was coordinated by the two institutions. The objective of the workshop with the ICBF was to reach consensus on the criteria for the further development of the Program and to find alternative solutions to critical issues that will enable to strengthen the ICBF regional and Local Centers.</p> <p>1.4 Some of the most relevant aspects identified were the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is necessary to support the ICBF with a hiring strategy. A joint action plan was designed that includes the actions and schedule to be followed by each one of the areas and components of assistance and prevention. • There are coordination and communication problems with several ICBF divisions. The solution to this is more coordination with the regional offices. This would involve a process of getting closer, create awareness and undertake joint actions. • The need to jointly convene private sector associations has been identified. • It is necessary to jointly consolidate the education offer through the ME. • It is also necessary to establish procedures such as supervision and monitoring in a joint manner by the ICBF and the IOM. Communication focal points were established and a strategy was agreed for the strengthening of the ICBF regional and local offices in the process to |

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Assistance provided to the youngsters strengthened¹ at a technical and administrative level.</p> | <p>decentralize the Program (joint ICBF-IOM action plan attached).</p> <p>1.5 A work meeting was carried out to respond to the difficulties identified during the two workshops mentioned. ICBF regional directors, technical team coordinators, and area center coordinators where the Program operates participated in this meeting (39 individuals – 26 of the regional offices and Local Centers, 8 of the ICBF headquarters and 5 IOM officials).</p> <p>1.6 The results of this workshop were the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissemination of the Program's following aspects: general balance: progress in the design of the guidelines and characteristics of the implementing institutions. • Initiation of the process to validate quality standards and results. • Creation of a joint contracting process (IOM-ICBF) by including issues such as: support to create awareness, training, and evaluation and selection of proposals. A proposal was presented to reach tripartite contracts in order to include the ICBF region offices and to obtain a more active commitment on their part. The flowchart for the process was established. • General technical assistance elements and their differences with supervision were defined. • Joint supervision agreements reached between the ICBF and the IOM. The supervision mechanisms were adjusted according to the Program's characteristics and systems (Workshop report attached). <p>1.7 The community networks consulting services was completed. The strategy was to get closer, create awareness and take action with institutions and social organizations in order to coordinate the integration projects for the youngsters. The following results were obtained:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closer relations and coordination with youth councils in four areas of Bogotá (Engativá, Teusaquillo, Santa Fe and Suba) to make available local opportunities and projects to the youngsters of the Program. The issues discussed were: youth integration, culture, community movies and vocational training. • Actions with government institutions: i) Coldeportes for formation, recreation and skills projects with a high performance at a national level; ii) Ministry of Culture for the implementation of cultural proposals for children demobilized from the armed conflict. • Coordination with the Bogotá Chamber of Commerce for the implementation of vocational training and income generation projects. • Coordination of six sports units with the Chia Municipal Recreation Institute. This is an employment and social integration opportunity for youngsters demobilized from the armed conflict who are being trained in the sports area. |
|---|--|



*ICBF strengthening workshop
headquarters, regional and local offices*



*ICBF strengthening workshop,
March 18 and 19, 2004*

4. FAMILY REINTEGRATION

4.1 Synergies developed

The Program developed synergies with agencies of the Colombian Government and with Civil Society Organizations as follows:

GOC

- ✓ ICBF (regional and local)

4.2 Workplan Progress

| OBJECTIVE # 1: Strengthen and promote family reintegration if security conditions allow it. | |
|---|---|
| Results | Activities |
| 1 Psychosocial plans have been implemented with the families and reintegration strategies have been strengthened. | <p>1.1 Two <i>Family Encounters</i> were conducted during this quarter in Tunja and Medellín in the Shalom and Libertad y Esperanza CASEs respectively. 20 families of Medellín and 18 of Tunja participated in these activities for a total of 38 families. A total of 16 <i>Encounters</i> have been organized in Cali, Medellín, Bogotá, Bucaramanga and Pereira. The projected encounters during the next quarter will be in the CAEs of Cundinamarca. 320 children have had encounters with their families. The characteristics of the encounter in Tunja were the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The majority of the relatives who assisted were mothers and uncles with an average age of 35. The majority of them are from Boyacá, most of them are farmers with a monthly income lower than US\$73. • Reintegration is likely in eight families (44%). Only two of these families could support their children and provide them education. Three of the families have the kind of relationship that would make it possible to provide the children with emotional support and affection and two families are willing to provide lodging to their children. This information reflects the precarious condition of the families and the vulnerability situation that the youngsters would face if they return. The need to strengthen the youngsters' family ties is evident in order to prevent a new future engagement in the armed conflict. <p>1.2 39 youngsters have been reintegrated with their families, or 20% of the reintegration to date. This is demonstration of the emphasis made on this strategy during this quarter. Only 14% of the youngsters who have joined the Program (1,432 in total) have been reintegrated with their families (see Table 12). This low percentage is due to the existing limitation to contact their families and the reduced reintegration possibilities while the illegal armed groups are still present in the areas where the families live</p> |



Youngsters and their families during the encounter in Tunja



Family photo during the Tunja family encounter

4.3 Figures of the Family Reintegration Component

Table 9: Family encounters by region compared with the institutional coverage (cumulative)

| Regional | # of institutions by regions June 2003 to March 2004 | # of family encounters by regions through March 2004 |
|--------------|--|--|
| Cundinamarca | 5 | 3 |
| Santander | 4 | 4 |
| Bogotá | 6 | 4 |
| Antioquia | 2 | 2 |
| Valle | 2 | 2 |
| Risaralda | 1 | 1 |
| Tunja | 1 | 1 |
| Tolima | 1 | 0 |
| Total | 22 | 17 |

Table 9 shows that 17 family encounters have been carried out in the 22 operating institutions from June 2003 through March 2004. This means that 77% of the operators have carried out encounters. During the 17 family encounters supported by the Program 320 youngsters have been able to see their families again after a long separation.

Table 10: Children reintegrated by type of institution (quarter and cumulative)

| Type of Institution | # of children who have been reintegrated with their families- quarter | # of children who have been reintegrated with their families - cumulative |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Temporary Homes | 5 | 16 |
| Specialized Attention Centers | 24 | 123 |
| Half Way Homes | 5 | 19 |
| Protection | 5 | 37 |
| Foster Homes | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 39 | 195 |

Table 10 shows the number of family reintegration processes that have taken place during this quarter (39) broken down into the different assistance stages or systems. These represent 20% of the total number of youngsters who have returned with their families. The highest reintegration processes have been during the CAE stage (62% this quarter and 63% of the total number of reintegration processes) where the contacts, location and encounters have been more successful. The total number of children who have been reintegrated with their families through March 2004 is 195. This figure, compared to the total number of youngsters who have been provided assistance by the Program (1,432) represent 14%.

5. INCOME GENERATION AND JOB PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

5.1 Synergies Developed

The Program developed synergies with Colombian Government institutions, Civil Society Organizations, and International Cooperation agencies, as follows:

GOC

- ✓ ICBF
- ✓ Ministry of the Interior: Reintegration Program

Civil Society Organizations

- ✓ Red de Centros de Desarrollo Productivo (CDP's)
- ✓ CAFAM
- ✓ Casting
- ✓ Marketing de Ideas
- ✓ Imaginación
- ✓ Integrar Soluciones
- ✓ Good Will
- ✓ CEPEI
- ✓ Restrepo Barco Foundation
- ✓ Corporación Minuto de Dios.
- ✓ Fundación Superior
- ✓ Alcaldía de Medellín.
- ✓ Concejo de Medellín.
- ✓ Alcaldía de Santiago de Cali.
- ✓ Gobernación del Valle.
- ✓ Pontificia Universidad Javeriana de Cali.
- ✓ Universidad Nacional de Colombia.
- ✓ Federación Nacional de Comerciantes (FENALCO)
- ✓ Fundación Alvarallice
- ✓ ALDHU
- ✓ Ford Foundation

International Cooperation

- ✓ UNICEF
- ✓ Embassy of Austria
- ✓ UNDP

5.2 . Workplan Progress

OBJECTIVE # 1: Improve the knowledge and understanding of the profile of the youngsters who enter the program and fulfill their development expectations.

| Results | Activities |
|---|--|
| 1. Youngsters who join the program have received pre-employment and productivity orientation | 1.1. During this quarter 19 implementing NGOs joined the program and a learning by doing consultant was hired to gather information to make the profile of the youngsters at the time they join the Program. The forms already designed were applied to 390 youngsters. 1.2 The area where the workshops are held was used for group talks and orientation on productivity and employment for the youngsters. |
| 2. Income generating strategy disseminated among the youngsters who participate in the Program. | 2.1 Visits were made to the youngsters in the CAEs and the CJ to brief them on the strategy's scope and the commitments required of them to achieve the benefits. 487 youngsters were briefed on the Program's income generating strategy. 2.2 Two meetings were held with the implementing NGOs' and the ICBF's technical teams and to review the dissemination strategy and to design its mechanisms. The purpose is for the teams to concentrate on the achieving a greater commitment of the youngsters in the process of building an income generating plan. |

OBJECTIVE # 2: Train the youngsters of the Program on labor skills that will allow them to access sources of income by means of employment. This will be part of their basic education aimed at developing on the job psycho-technical and learning skills.

| Results | Activities |
|--|--|
| 1. 350 youngsters trained on learning processes and provide them pre-employment orientation. | 1.1 Two learning by doing workshops were carried out during this quarter. 83 youngsters of the Cali and Tunja CAEs were training. A total of 342 youngsters have participated in this kind of workshops. |
| 2. 240 youngsters were provided training on vocational education ⁴⁶ and job seeking ⁴⁷ . | 2.1 During this quarter 135 scholarships were granted for job skills training. The majority of the beneficiary youngsters belong to the CAEs and CJs. Of the 135 scholarships 97 correspond to <i>targeted sectors</i> on areas such as tailoring, shoemaking, food handling and services related to health services promotion and business management. The 38 remaining scholarships were for <i>complementary areas</i> such as sports, auto repair and card making. 2.2 Scholarships to pay for transportation were granted to beneficiary youngsters of the ICBF-SENA agreement. The agreement complements job skills training strategy coverage. 2.3 The total number of scholarships granted during the Program totals 396, thus exceeding the 65% coverage projected. |
| 3. 170 youngsters were provided basic job skills training. | 3.1. Training on basic job skills training has been initiated in the following areas: tailoring, food handling and services (health services, business management and events' logistics). A total of 91 youngsters initiated their training during this quarter for an accumulated 160 during the course of the Program. |
| 4. 100 youngsters employed | 4.1 During this quarter 21 youngsters found jobs in card making and sports monitoring. 4.2 11 youngsters were accepted as interns for events and festival planning in Medellín. |

OBJECTIVE # 3 : Provide orientation to the youngsters so that they develop an entrepreneurial spirit and explore feasible income generation initiatives.

| Results | Activities |
|---|--|
| 1. 70 youngsters who have basic business profiles were provided orientation on project design and implementation. | 1.1 A project review process is underway with the purpose of including them into the business activities and productivity chains to guarantee sustainability. The purpose is to strengthen the administration skills of the 58 beneficiaries, who represent 82% of the projected coverage. |

OBJECTIVE # 4: Identify investment opportunities for the creation of businesses or to improve usage of installed capacity as a means to generate stable employment for the youngsters benefited by the program.

| Results | Activities |
|---|--|
| 1. Identified, designed (30) and implemented (20) income generation projects with the private sector. | 1.1 Start-up of six projects with the private sector is underway in the following areas: shoemaking, recycling of leftover materials from the leather industry, tailoring, graphic arts and card making. 1.2 Four new initiatives with the private sector are being proposed in the following areas: cabinetmaking, shoemaking, restaurants and food handling. 1.3 There are 963 jobs available that the beneficiaries have access to when they have finished their labor skills training process. |

OBJECTIVE # 5: Institutionalize the development of the program by building up public and private social capital.

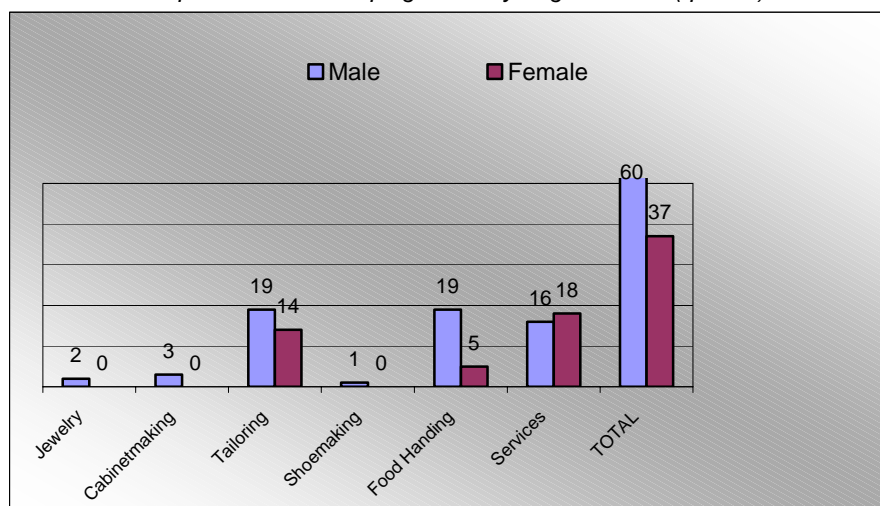
| Results | Activities |
|--|--|
| 1. Established Institutional and business support networks ⁴⁸ to strengthen joint development of income generation activities and projects. | 1.1. The surveys have been designed for the Business Perception Observatory and the first test survey has been conducted. 1.2 An international workshop was carried out with experts on better practices for economic and social integration. The report on the results of the workshop is being edited. 1.3 An expert is being hired to write the draft the Incentives Bill to promote the participation of the Business Network. This is based on the development of income generation and employment initiatives identified together with the private sector. |

5.3 Figures of the Income Generation Component

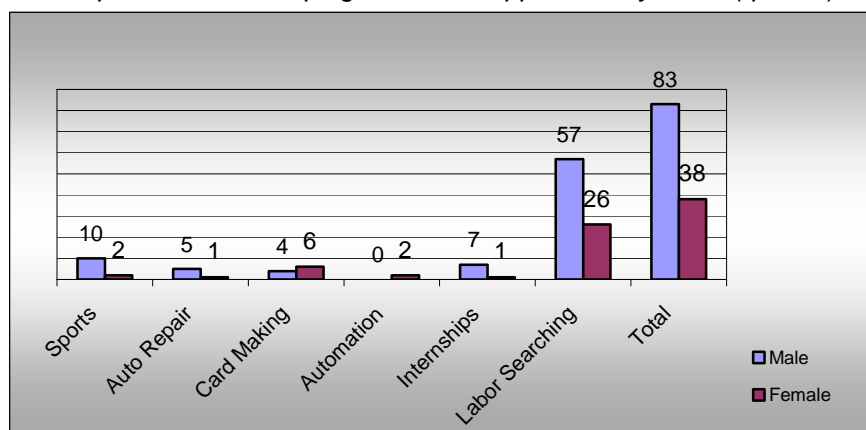
Table 11: Scholarships granted by sector and gender (quarter)

| Target sectors | Male | Female | Total | % |
|---------------------------------------|------------|-----------|------------|------|
| Jewelry | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2% |
| Word and Cabinetmaking | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3% |
| Tailoring | 19 | 14 | 33 | 34% |
| Shoemaking | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1% |
| Food Handling | 19 | 5 | 24 | 25% |
| Services | 16 | 18 | 34 | 35% |
| Sub-total | 60 | 37 | 97 | 100% |
| Areas | Male | Female | Total | % |
| Sports | 10 | 2 | 12 | 10% |
| Auto repair | 5 | 1 | 6 | 5% |
| Card making | 4 | 6 | 10 | 8% |
| Automation systems | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2% |
| Local internships | 7 | 1 | 8 | 7% |
| Labor searching and learning by doing | 57 | 26 | 83 | 69% |
| Sub-total | 83 | 38 | 121 | 100% |
| Total | 143 | 75 | 218 | |

Graph 14: Scholarships granted by target sectors (quarter)



Graph 15: Scholarships granted for supplementary areas (quarter)



During this quarter 218 scholarships were granted. 44.5% (97) of the scholarships granted during this quarter correspond to target sectors emphasizing areas such as shoemaking, recycling, food and services; 38.1% (83) correspond to learning by doing and the remaining 17.4% (38) were for complementary areas.

Table 12: Scholarships granted by sector and gender (cumulative)

| Target Sectors | Male | Female | Total | % |
|------------------------|------------|-----------|------------|-------------|
| Jewelry | 18 | 7 | 25 | 11% |
| Wood and Cabinetmaking | 19 | 0 | 19 | 8% |
| Tailoring | 42 | 31 | 73 | 19% |
| Shoemaking | 13 | 0 | 13 | 6% |
| Food handling | 51 | 10 | 61 | 17% |
| Services | 48 | 36 | 60 | 40% |
| Sub-total | 147 | 65 | 212 | 100% |

Graph 16: Scholarships granted by program phases

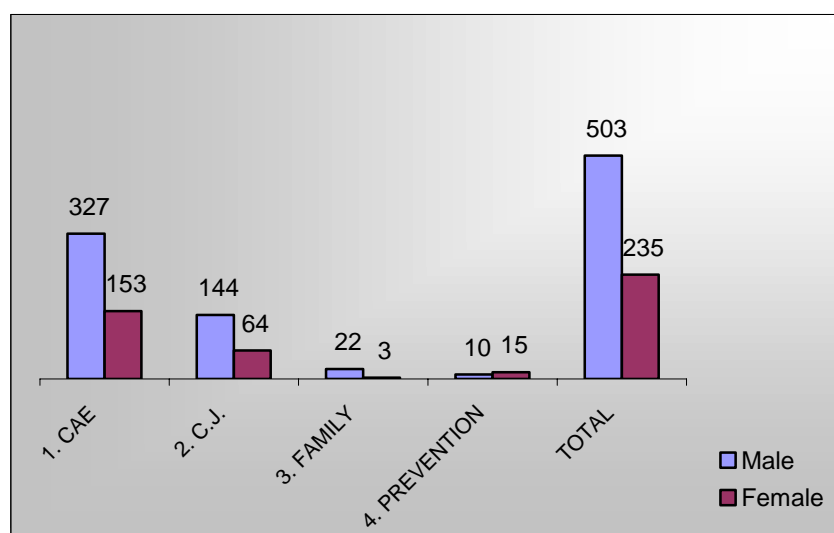
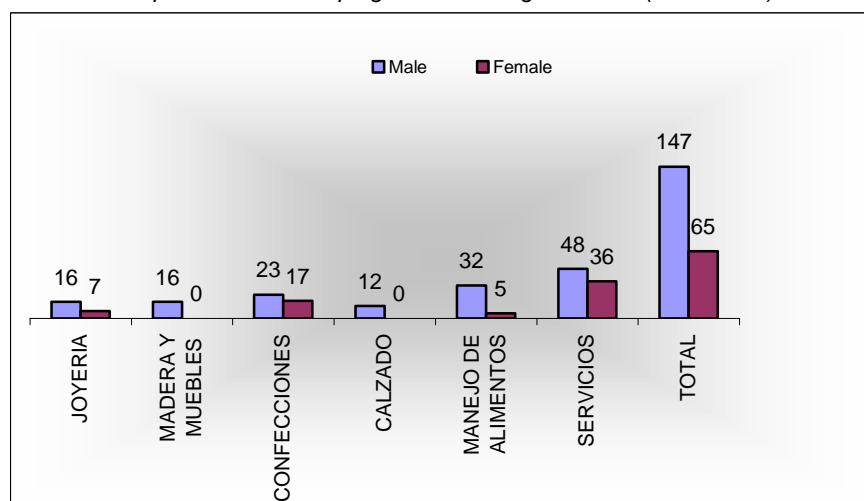


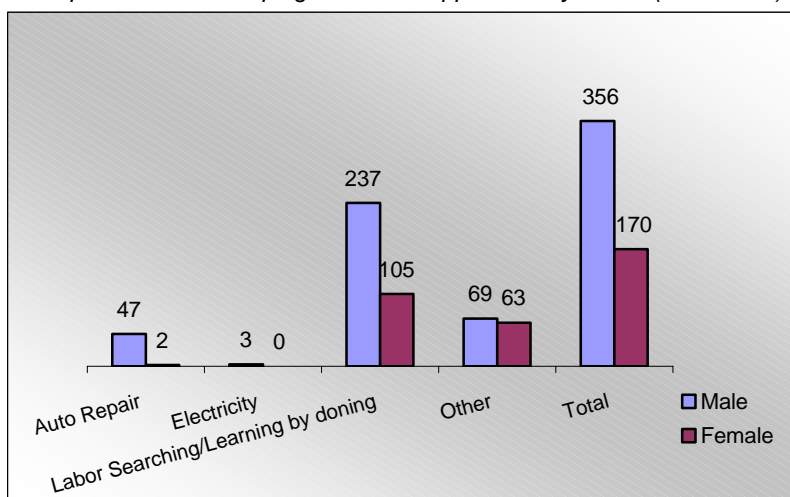
Table 13: Scholarships granted for supplementary areas (cumulative)

| Supplementary Areas | Male | Female | Total | % |
|---------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------|
| Auto repair | 47 | 2 | 49 | 9% |
| Electricity | 3 | 0 | 3 | 1% |
| Labor searching and learning by doing | 237 | 105 | 342 | 65% |
| Other | 69 | 61 | 121 | 25% |
| Sub-total | 356 | 170 | 526 | 100% |
| Total | 503 | 235 | 738 | |

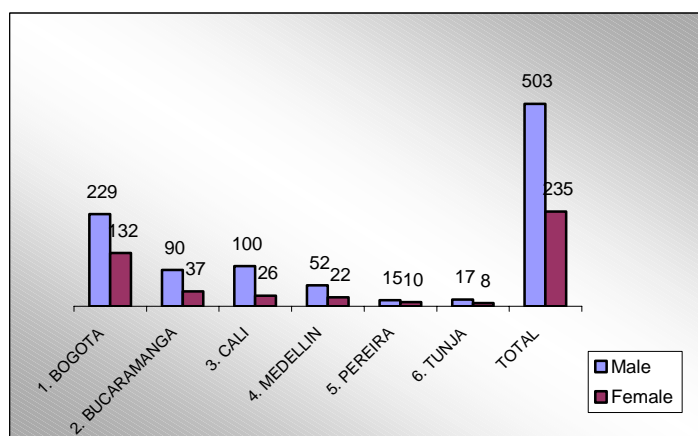
Graph 17: Scholarships granted for target sectors (cumulative)



Graph 18: Scholarships granted for supplementary areas (cumulative)



Graph 19: Scholarships granted by city



Throughout the Program 738 scholarships have been granted: 46.3% (342) correspond to learning by doing, which is the first step towards the income generating strategy; 28.8% (212) for income generation activities defined as the target sectors; and 24.9% (184) for complementary areas.

The behavior of the scholarships assigned confirms the tendency projected in the strategy to progressively concentrate on employment skills training in the target sectors, which are the activities where there is a higher possibility of obtaining a job.

The scholarships granted by city throughout the Program are distributed as follows: Bogotá 49%; Bucaramanga and Cali each one with 17%; Medellín 10%; and Pereira and Tunja each one with 3%. The percentages are directly correlated with the # of children in each city.

There is a direct correlation between the scholarships granted by the Program and the number of youngsters who are in each phase. Thus, the CAEs receive 65%, the half way homes 28%, and family reintegration and prevention 3%. Furthermore, the distribution of scholarships by gender is consistent: 68.2% (503) of the scholarships have been granted to males and 31.8% (235) to females.

5.4 Progress made regarding the alliances with the Private Sector

5.4.1 The strategy

During the past few months the IOM has undertaken several strategic actions to encourage the development of alliances with the private sector. After an analysis of the income and employment generation strategies developed in each program, several technical papers have been drafted which may provide orientation and support for the ongoing actions. A paper entitled "Policy Guidelines for Cooperation and Private Sector Development" has been produced to provide general operation guidelines for income and employment generating actions for the reestablishment of displaced and vulnerable

populations. The paper develops and unifies general criteria in order to focus the actions for the IOM projects:

- Promotion of Corporate Social Responsibility
- Public-Private Sector Coordination
- Business Development and Employment Access
- Sustainability

The purpose of the paper is to strengthen lessons learned in the joint work with the private sector and to obtain benefits of the good practices in areas such as:

- Creation of businesses and production groups
- Employment promotion and job training
- Assistance to production units in areas such as capitalization, micro-credit and production links.

Standardization and analysis of the experiences in this area of the IDP, Ex-Combatant Children, Peace and Trafficking In Persons Programs has been carried out. This will make available critical information to strengthen the IOM's strategy and to foster alliances with the private sector. The standardization of the data will enable the IOM to:

- Control the **Administrative and Investment Indicators** for income and employment generating actions.
- **Have critical and updated information available** related to the businesses, alliances and impact indicators.
- **Disaggregate and correlate private sector and productive development information** with the sustainability, result and performance indicators of the ongoing projects.
- **Follow-up of the tendencies and results** registered in the information system.

5.4.2 Current Status

The IOM, has carried out **114 joint actions** with the private sector during the administration and implementation of its Programs during the past two years. These include donations and business capitalization actions, or production links. The last two are directly related to employment and income generation. Fifty percent of the alliances have concentrated on the large businesses and the participation of medium and small businesses and micro-enterprises have participated with 15%, 10% and 14% respectively. Among the large businesses the sectors with a greater concentration have been the mass media, fashion and services while medium and small businesses have concentrated in the agriculture, fashion and services -- especially hotels and food products. Comparing these figures with the national scenario's growth sectors it is evident that it is necessary to encourage actions in the construction, metallurgic, auto parts, medium transformation goods and, of course, fashion, where new markets niches are opening as a result of the trade agreements with the United States. These provide employment generation options with qualified labor in areas of quick training.

- Businesses by type
- Businesses by sector

5.4.3 Work Areas

The areas in which the Program has been working together with the private sector have concentrated 60% on employment generation. This means that 84 businesses have contributed with direct temporary and permanent jobs. Furthermore, 29 businesses have provided technical assistance and job skills training and have offered their know-how and assistance for specific businesses and activities. These

activities have been joined by the employees and owners, who have expressed their interest in contributing to social actions. Another important percent of actions have been agreed by housing, health, education by private sector sponsorships.

With regard to dissemination, which is a cross-cutting component for several IOM's Programs that carry out public information campaigns, 19 businesses such as TV channels, the Internet, distribution points and massive consumer products, have collaborated in the dissemination of TV commercials and publications of campaigns for the prevention of child recruitment and Trafficking In Persons, among others. The impact of these actions is reflected in the efficient management of the funds, greater coverage and awareness raised among media, business and the society on the assistance provided to vulnerable populations. Furthermore, areas such as housing, health and infrastructure donations represent potential opportunities that can be strengthened.

5.4.4 Intervention areas

Services Areas

The IOM aims to encourage overall corporate social responsibility in a holistic way, by providing incentives for the activities that have already been initiated with businesses such as ALFA de Santander, which enable the private sector to participate in sustainable reintegration solutions. The production links, the development of providers and distribution networks and exports promotions are activities that have different options, where the large businesses can exert leadership based on their experiences in the market. This would enable the economic integration of associations and small producers.

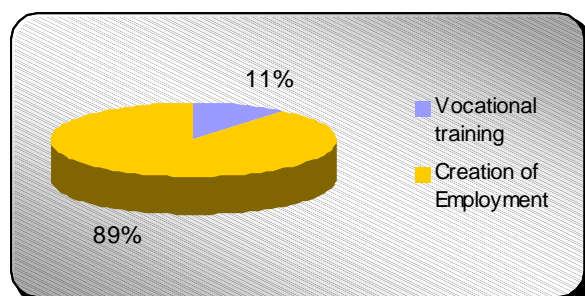
Actions

The IOM work carried out to create jobs and micro-enterprises has been related to the Program for ex-combatant children in more than 80%.

The characteristics and obstacles in achieving the reintegration of the youngsters makes the creation of micro-enterprises and small scale productivity groups one of the most appropriate strategies for the employment requirements. Furthermore, micro, medium and small businesses have been very receptive to the promotion of job alternatives. The Ex-combatant Children's Program concentrates 58% of the projects with the private sector represented by 23 businesses with ongoing activities.

Focus areas

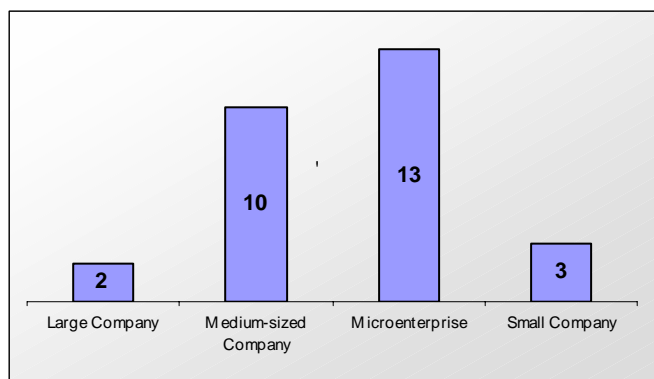
Graph 20: Focus areas with private sector



The graph shows that the focus of efforts developed with private enterprises has been on facilitating access to employment for 89% of the children. This aspect is considered a requirement for effective integration into society. The 11% refers to vocational or job training activities for the beneficiaries.

Comparing with other IOM programs, this program has developed the highest number of alliances with private sector, with an inverse correlation of number of beneficiaries, which is lower than other programs (275). In the same way, the proportion of funds raised from private business is higher than the funds raised in other strategies.

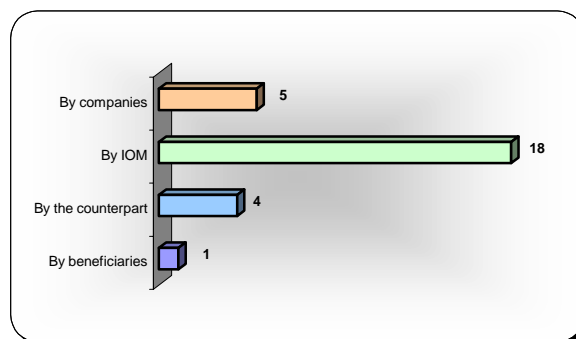
Graph 21: Participating companies by type



IOM aims to create installed capacity, for which we place special importance on encouraging our partners to develop alliances that can strengthen regional action and the convergence of different actors to serve the population at risk. In terms of strategies for the future, IOM will act in coordination with counterparts and local actors to strengthen cooperation schemes. Following the completion of joint actions within the Child Soldiers Program, most of the companies involved have expressed an interest in continuing exploring new alternatives to work together.

In most instances, the development of joint projects and actions with private companies is the result of an agreement on concerted action with counterparts and grass-roots groups. In analyzing the alliances that have been established, we see that more than 53% were secured at the initiative of IOM's national and regional counterparts. Twenty-seven percent (27%) of all current alliances were arranged directly through the programs, with the Child Soldiers Program having the largest number of alliances secured directly.

Graph 22: Alliances established



6. CONTINGENCY PLAN

6.1 Synergies Developed

The Program developed synergies with agencies from the Colombian Government and Civil Society Organizations and the international cooperation, as follows:

GOC

- ✓ ICBF
- ✓ Municipal Education Offices
- ✓ Office of the High Commissioner for Peace
- ✓ Armed Forces of Colombia
- ✓ Human Rights Ombudsman's Office
- ✓ Attorney General's Office

Civil Society Organizations

- ✓ *Salesianos Don Bosco Medellín*
- ✓ *Quindio Univesity Cooperative (Cooperativa Universidad del Quindío)*
- ✓ Colombian Red Cross

International Cooperation

- ✓ UNICEF

6.2 Workplan Progress

OBJECTIVE # 1: Support an appropriate response from the Colombian Government in case of massive demobilizations.

| Results | Activities |
|---|---|
| 1. An Inter-institutional strategy has been designed in case of a massive demobilization of youngsters. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The general analysis of the 48 youngsters handed over by the Bloque Cacique Nutibara in Medellín has been completed. A relevant issue detected among that group was a high consumption of psychoactive substances (SPAs). The Don Bosco Center was chosen as the implementing institution. Visits were made to the youngsters of this center to reduce their initial anxiety regarding the fact that they would be confined in closed institutions. Currently, the youngsters are very motivated by the fact that they will initiate their job skills training. Arrangements have been made with the Director of the Don Bosco Center so that the assistance strategy includes the following aspects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Academic formation process Vocational training process Assistance to prevent SPA consumption Coaching and feedback to the families of the youngsters Joint action has been taken by the ICBF headquarters and regional offices, UNICEF and the IOM to design the guidelines for the Conditional Subsidy system as a strategy for the assistance of these youngsters. A proposal is being designed to initiate assistance under this system including follow-up, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms that will make it possible to have valid information after the six month trial period in order to implement this model in other regions of the country. The Contingency Plan assistance protocol was updated for a possible massive demobilization. The following actions were established: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update of the slots map. Selection and training of a task force that will provide quick response. Update of the assistance plan by macro-regions based on assistance plans for 50 to 400 children demobilized from the armed conflict. Design of assistance standards and manuals. Design of a database to keep the information on the youngsters. Identification of the number of slots available in the Program and the projections according to the creation of new centers (See tables) Activities related to the training of the task force were established as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design an introduction manual. Create awareness among the institutions that will participate in the contingency plan. Select professionals by institution and region according to their profiles. Regional training contests. Training workshops. During this quarter test projects have been initiated for the foster homes in Armenia and the Conditional Subsidies in Medellín. These will serve as an important reference in the framework of a contingency plan because they will make it possible to provide assistance within a more accessible social and family environment in case of massive demobilizations. |

6.3. Figures of the Contingency Plan Component

Joint action has been taken by the ICBF headquarters and regional offices, UNICEF and the IOM to design the guidelines for the Conditional Subsidy system as a strategy for the assistance of these youngsters. A proposal is being designed to initiate assistance under this system including follow-up, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms that will make it possible to have valid information after the six month trial period in order to implement this model in other regions of the country.

Table 14: Number of slots available by type of institution (As of March 2004)

| Phase | Region | Institutions | Slots contracted | Slots Used | Slots Available |
|---------------|--------------|----------------------|------------------|------------|-----------------|
| HAT | Bogotá | Luna | 25 | 23 | 2 |
| | | Jose | 28 | 22 | 6 |
| | | Shalom | 25 | 23 | 2 |
| | Valle | Semillas de Amor | 29 | 28 | 1 |
| | Antioquia | Nuevos Caminos | 28 | 30 | -2 |
| | Subtotal | | 135 | 126 | 9 |
| CAE | Bogotá | Arco Iris | 25 | 24 | 1 |
| | | La Barca | 22 | 22 | 0 |
| | | La Guapa | 30 | 28 | 2 |
| | | Forjar | 25 | 23 | 2 |
| | | Benposta | 30 | 27 | 3 |
| | Cundinamarca | La Floresta | 25 | 30 | -5 |
| | | Amigoniano | 35 | 19 | 16 |
| | Valle | Don Bosco | 25 | 24 | 1 |
| | Santander | Colima | 25 | 21 | 4 |
| | | Semillas de Paz | 21 | 21 | 0 |
| | | Nueva luz | 23 | 22 | 1 |
| | Antioquia | Libertad y Esperanza | 30 | 29 | 1 |
| | | La Florida | 29 | 25 | 4 |
| | Tunja | Shalom | 25 | 24 | 1 |
| | Risaralda | Heroes del Futuro | 30 | 24 | 6 |
| | Subtotal | | 400 | 363 | 37 |
| Half Way Home | Bogotá | Albita | 24 | 22 | 2 |
| | Valle | Juan Bosco | 17 | 17 | 0 |
| | Santander | Claret | 12 | 8 | 4 |
| | Subtotal | | 53 | 47 | 6 |
| Protection | | | 58 | 58 | 0 |
| Foster home | Bogotá | | 40 | 34 | 6 |
| Total | | | 686 | 628 | 85 |

Table 14 shows that there are 37 slots available in the CAE's phase, making it possible to transfer youngsters from the HAT. Thus, there are slots availability for youngsters who arrive in April.

Table 15: # of slots projected by type of institution (As of March 2004)

| Phase | Region | Institutions | Slots to be contracted |
|-----------------|-----------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| CAE | Valle | Juan Bosco | 30 |
| | Antioquia | Ciudad Don Bosco | 30 |
| Foster Homes | Armenia | Don Bosco – Quindío University | 40 |
| | Bolívar | To be identified | 40 |
| | Huila | To be identified | 40 |
| Subtotal | | | 180 |

Table 15 shows the number of projected slots when the two new CAEs in Cali and Medellín open (60 slots) and the projected slots under the social-family environment model represented by the foster homes in Armenia, Bolívar and Huila (120 slots). This would make a total of 180 new slots for the Program with the purpose of responding to a possible increase of the demobilized population and/or assistance in case of massive demobilizations in the near future.

7. REFERRAL AND SUPPORT CENTERS

7.1 Synergies Developed

The Program developed synergies with agencies from the Colombian Government Civil Society Organizations, as follows:

GOC

- ✓ ICBF
- ✓ Municipal Education Offices in Bogotá

Civil Society Organizations

- ✓ Chamber of Commerce of Bogotá
- ✓ Microenterprise Association

7.2 Workplan Progress

OBJECTIVE # 1: Design and implement a strategy to create Regional Referral and Support Centers to support the youngsters demobilized from the armed conflict.

| Results | Activities During the Quarter |
|---|---|
| 1. A strategy is in place for the creation of Referral and Support Centers. | <p>1.1 The Tejiendo Vida Referral and Support Center (CRO in Spanish) in Bogotá continues to operate.</p> <p>1.2 50 youngsters graduated from the Program have been hired through the Bogotá CRO (41 males and 9 females). They have already started connection into the CRO education and vocational training networks.</p> <p>1.3 Negotiations have started with businesses and economic groups that meet the youngsters' training profiles in areas such as tailoring, cabinet making, auto repair and rural sector activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact has been made with the Bogotá Chamber of Commerce and with a microenterprise association. • Two joint venture projects have been designed: one with a clothes industry and another one to install a plant nursery for three youngsters and eight members of their families. The Program's scholarship fund has granted 24 scholarships. • 200% of the youngsters granted scholarships have been monitored. • Advice has been provided for the design and Start-up of two family income generating projects (stationary-miscellaneous) in technical, financial, business and administration issues. • Psychosocial support has been given to two families who will start their own businesses. <p>1.4 Adjustments were made to the guidelines and services that the CRO should provide following the six month experience in the work with the youngsters. The CRO and IOM technical teams designed mechanisms and established the terms and time frames for the services provided to the youngsters.</p> |
| Results | Activities During the Quarter |
| 2. Three regional referral centers created and operating. | <p>2.1 A CRO was opened in Cali operated by the Pía Sociedad Salesiana-Centro Don Bosco, which has been very efficient in the administrative and technical management of the Puertas Abiertas CAE in Cali and has experience in providing assistance to children demobilized from the armed conflict.</p> <p>2.2 Monitoring, advice and coordination meetings have been held by the IOM and Don Bosco for the start-up of the center, which is expected to provide assistance in the following areas to 100 youngsters who have graduated from the Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate social and economic integration with the completion of formal education, employment and/or advice for the start-up of income generating projects. • Coaching and feedback for personal and family reintegration through individual psychological assistance aimed at focusing on a life project. • Monitoring the insertion process of youngsters who have graduated from the Program in Valle. |

8. DISSEMINATION OF THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK

8.1 Synergies Developed

The Program developed synergies with agencies from the Colombian Government and the international cooperation, as follows:

| |
|--|
| <u>GOC</u> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ICBF ✓ Human Rights Ombudsman Office ✓ National Citizen Registry (<i>Registraduría Nacional del Estado Civil</i>) ✓ General Attorney's Office |
| <u>International Cooperation</u> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ UNICEF |

8.2 Workplan Progress

OBJECTIVE # 1: Dissemination of the legal status of ex-combatant children to guarantee due judicial and/or administrative processes among local, regional and national authorities and civil society organizations.

| Results | Activities During the Quarter |
|--|--|
| 1. Officials, (family judges, family advocates and other civil servants) trained on the regulations applicable to judicial and administrative processes involving ex-combatant children. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A work group was created with the ICBF, the General Attorney's Office, the Public Defender's Office, UNICEF and the IOM to draft articles 24 y 25 of the Bill. Furthermore, the group reviewed the proposal that was agreed upon for the decree law on the administrative actions to be followed by the children demobilized from the armed conflict. • The draft decree law was reviewed by the Office of the President of Colombia (See Attachment). • Reprinting of the legal standing poster was agreed upon and carried out with the ICBF communications office. • The proposal for employee training was redesigned while the Office of the President of Colombia approves de decree law. The objective is to reach consensus and jointly implement the training program for public employees. • The observatory for children demobilized from the armed conflict was designed and implemented. The observatory will be in charge of informing, analyzing and following-up the reestablishment of the rights of children who are victims of the country's political violence (Art.15 Law 782/02). The specific objectives are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Gather, standardize and analyze the institutional information on the status of rights of children demobilized from the armed conflict: judicial and administrative processes, and ICBF specialized assistance, among others. ➢ Recommendations to focus and adjust the programs to provide assistance to children demobilized from the armed conflict on legal issues. ➢ Periodically disseminate the results of the reviews made to the assistance programs, to the reestablishment of the rights of the children demobilized from the armed conflict and to the prevention projects. |

OBJECTIVE # 2: Contribute with the process of obtaining identification documents for the youngsters and expediting legal processes.

| Results | Activities During the Quarter |
|---|--|
| 1. The youngsters have identification cards and legal processes are progressing in a quick and timely manner. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seven workshops on the legal standing of children demobilized from the armed conflict were carried out with 174 youngsters of the Luna, Shalom and José, Nuevos Caminos and Semillas de Amor temporary homes and of the La Barca and Libertad y Esperanza CAEs. Certificates of the Committee for the Surrender of Arms (CODA) were obtained for 172 youngsters. 269 judicial processes were closed. Now the beneficiaries will only have to appear before the ICBF administrative protection processes. Legal documents obtained in the civil registry and/or identification cards for 68 youngsters. Of the total number of children provided assistance, 417 have their documents in place. 66 youngsters left for the Reintegration Program. |

8.3. Figures of the legal framework dissemination component

Table 16: Minors who have identity cards

| Total assisted this quarter | Youngsters with IDs (Oct-Dec 2003) | Youngsters with IDs Jan-March 2004 |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 628 | 444 | 417 |

Table 16 shows that of the 628 youngsters assisted during this quarter, 417 (66.4%) have obtained their documents, only 27 cases less compared to the previous quarter (444 cases). The

percentage of children who have obtained their documents has remained stable (60% to 67%). This is due to the fact that the document applications take a long time and sometimes it is very difficult to locate their relatives in order to process the requests with the notaries and the Civil Registry.

Table 17: Youngsters with CODA certificates

| # of children with CODA certificates December 2003 | # of children with CODA certificates Jan-Mar 2004 | # of children with CODA certificates March 2004-cumulative |
|--|---|--|
| 627 | 172 | 799 |

Table 17 shows that 172 CODA certificates were obtained during this quarter, or 22% of the total certificates obtained during the course of the Program.

Table 18: Judicial and Administrative Processes

Table 18 shows the legal situation of the youngsters of the Program through March 2004. 43% of the youngsters' judicial processes have been closed and 89% have ongoing administrative protection processes with the ICBF. The remaining 68 youngsters (10.8%) do not have administrative processes with the ICBF. This may be due to the fact that some of the family defenders wait for the legal processes to be closed to open administrative ones.

| # of youngsters in the Program March 2004 | Youngsters with ongoing judicial processes | Youngsters whose processes are closed | Youngsters with ongoing administrative processes |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| 628 | 359 | 269 | 560 |

9. PREVENTION AND REINTEGRATION OF INDIGENOUS AND AFRO-COLOMBIAN MINORITIES

9.1 Synergies Developed

The Program developed synergies with agencies from the Colombian Government and Civil Society Organizations, as follows:

GOC

- ✓ Human Rights Ombudsman Office
- ✓ Departmental governments of Chocó and Cauca
- ✓ Mayors' Offices of Sabaleta, Itsmina, Alto Baudó and Tadó
- ✓ UMATA (Municipal Technical Assistance Units)
- ✓ Colombian Agriculture and Livestock Institute (*Instituto Colombiano Agropecuario [ICA]*)
- ✓ Servicio Nacional de Aprendizaje (SENA)
- ✓ Cauca University

Civil Society Organizations

- ✓ Program's implementing NGOs
- ✓ PROFAMILIA
- ✓ ASJUMILLA
- ✓ PORQUIVENTAS
- ✓ Guachicono Community Action Board (JAC)
- ✓ Cauca Livestock Fund
- ✓ ASPROME
- ✓ PEZ PACIFICO
- ✓ Artesanías de Colombia
- ✓ COMFACAUCA
- ✓ Indigenous Councils (*Cabildos Indígenas*) of the reservations of Sotará, Pioyá, Caldonó and Cajibío

9.2 Workplan Progress

OBJECTIVE # 1: Consolidate the reintegration and prevention models for youth from ethnic minorities in the departments of Chocó and Cauca.

| Results | Activities |
|---|---|
| <p>1. 160 Indigenous and Afro-Colombian youngsters from the department of Chocó involved in cultural, educational and food security projects that prevent their recruitment by illegal armed groups.</p> | <p>1.1. Support has been given to four agriculture and livestock income generating projects through orientation and monitoring to 329 youngsters: 284 Afro-Colombians (7 demobilized from the armed conflict) and 45 Indigenous (demobilized from the Guevarista Revolutionary Army) in the municipalities of Sabaleta, Istmina, Alto Baudó and Tadó. .</p> <p>1.2. Follow-up, coaching and feedback have been provided to complete two school huts where 75 Indigenous children of the Tiakirude community receive education and the same number of school kits was provided.</p> <p>1.3. In the municipalities of Condoto, Carmen de Atrato, Quibdó, San José del Palmar, Nuquí, Medio Atrato and Alto Baudó 39 human rights, IHL and ethnic legislation workshops have been conducted with the participation of 1,074 enrolled and non-enrolled school children (Afro-Colombian and Indigenous), 316 teachers and 87 public employees.</p> <p>1.4. Design of four project proposals were drafted which resulted from the implementation of the risk assessment maps and the terms of reference to hire the implementing institution.</p> <p>1.5. The strategy was designed to provide continuity during the next ten months to the child recruitment prevention project in the department of Chocó. The project will focus on human rights training to municipalities, institutions, community organizations and schools.</p> <p>1.6. Consulting services were hired to evaluate and standardize the projects and programs carried out to date in Chocó.</p> |
| <p>2. 120 Indigenous and Afro-Colombian boys and girls demobilized from the armed conflict in Cauca are beneficiaries of income generating projects</p> | <p>2.1. Implementation of the fish farming project has been initiated in the Llano de Taula village (Guachené). This project benefits 30 youngsters: five demobilized from the armed conflict and 25 who are at recruitment risk.</p> <p>2.2. A piece of land was prepared in the San José village (Cajibío) and planning has been initiated under the organic coffee and plantain project. This initiative benefits 10 youngsters at a risk of being recruited by the GAI.</p> <p>2.3. Technical assistance is being provided for the livestock project under an agreement with the UMATA in Caldoño. This project has 15 beneficiaries (seven youngsters demobilized from the armed conflict and eight at a recruitment risk). Technical training has been provided to the 10 beneficiaries of the La Pedragosa village (Cajibío), of which two are demobilized from the GAI and eight are at a recruitment risk. The agreements with the new Rio Blanco Indigenous Council (<i>Cabildo Indígena</i>) for the production and sale of milk, the definition of beneficiaries, the identification of suppliers, and the training of 10 beneficiaries (four demobilized from the armed conflict and six at a recruitment risk) have been reviewed.</p> <p>2.4. Technical training has been provided to prepare the land for the production and sale of fruit pulp project in San Lorenzo de Caldoño. The beneficiaries are six youngsters (four demobilized from the armed conflict and two at a recruitment risk).</p> |

| Results | Activities |
|---|---|
| 2. 120 Indigenous and Afro-Colombian boys and girls demobilized from the armed conflict in Cauca are beneficiaries of income generating projects | <p>2.5. Technical assistance was coordinated with the UMATA for the pig breeding project in the Gualo village (San Lorenzo de Caldos). This project has 25 beneficiaries: seven youngsters demobilized from the armed conflict and 18 at a risk of recruitment. Furthermore, technical assistance will be provided to the La Palma village with 10 beneficiaries: four youngsters demobilized from the GAI and six at a risk of being recruited.</p> <p>2.6. Technical training was coordinated with the Artesanías de Colombia for the production and sale of silk clothes in Timbío. The project has been initiated and actions are being taken with the SENA to provide administrative training. This project benefits 10 youngsters: three demobilized from the GAI and seven at a recruitment risk.</p> <p>2.7. Actions have been taken so that the SENA provides technical training for the agriculture project to plant vegetables in nine Indian reservation villages in Polindara (Totoró). Three lots have been prepared for planting. The beneficiaries of this project are 45 individuals: three youngsters demobilized from the GAI and 43 at a risk of being recruited. This project resulted from the implementation of the risk assessment map methodology.</p> <p>2.8. Lots have been prepared for the project to plant sugar cane in the villages of La Palma and Arado (Cajibío) and technical assistance is being provided. 20 youngsters of the Guambiana Indigenous group, who are at a risk of being recruited by the GAI, will benefit from this project. This project resulted from the implementation of the risk assessment map methodology.</p> |
| 3. 250 Indigenous and Afro-Colombia boys and girls in Cauca at risk of being recruited by illegal armed groups are beneficiaries of cultural, educational, and family strengthening projects. | <p>3.1. Monitoring, feedback and coaching have been provided to the Puirek musical group to consolidate and strengthen the cultural project of the region. This project benefits seven youngsters: two demobilized from the armed conflict and five at a risk of being recruited by the GAI.</p> <p>3.2. Coordination has been carried out with the Mayors' offices, schools and municipal family affaires offices of the farming villages of La Vega and Santander de Quilichao for education and cultural projects in those communities. These projects will benefit 245 people and have resulted from the implementation of the risk assessment map methodology.</p> <p>3.3. Guidelines have been defined and proposals have been requested for the implementation of cultural and overall recreation projects whose beneficiaries are the members of the income generating projects (191).</p> |

9.3 Figures of the ethnic minorities component

Table 19 : Beneficiaries by type of project (quarter & cumulative)

| Type of Project | Beneficiaries/Quarter | | | | | | Beneficiaries/Cumulative | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|---------|-----------|----------------|---------|--------------------------|----------------|---------|-----------|----------------|---------|
| | Demobilized | | | At Risk | | | Demobilized | | | At Risk | | |
| | Indigenou | Afro Colombian | Peasant | Indigenou | Afro Colombian | Peasant | Indigenou | Afro Colombian | Peasant | Indigenou | Afro Colombian | Peasant |
| IncomeGeneration Project | 3 | 4 | 0 | 118 | 36 | 30 | 95 | 24 | 5 | 173 | 36 | 30 |
| Educational, Sports and Project | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 245 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 260 | 139 | 305 |

The Program to provide assistance to ethnic minorities in Cauca has provided assistance to 1,079 youngsters within the framework of the agreement with the Cauca Governorship and the Community Projects Association (APC in Spanish). Indigenous authorities of the different communities of the department have participated in the initiatives. The cumulative figures show greater coverage to Indigenous communities (50% - 540 beneficiaries), followed by peasant children (32% - 340 beneficiaries), and by Afro-Colombians (18% - 199 beneficiaries).

During this quarter coverage has increased to 436 beneficiaries and the participation of peasant communities is noteworthy. In addition, it is important to show how the implementation of the risk assessment map methodology results in the participation of new communities in the prevention projects, where culture is a means of protection and restraint for both the youngsters demobilized from the armed conflict and for those who are at a risk of recruitment. This is why the projects involve both the demobilized population and that which is at risk.

*Table 20: Beneficiaries by ethnic groups and peasants
Department of Cauca (cumulative)*

| Ethnic | Beneficiaries | % |
|-----------------|----------------------|------------|
| Peasants | 275 | 63 |
| Indigenous | 121 | 28 |
| Áfro- Colombian | 40 | 9 |
| Total | 436 | 100 |

Of the 436 beneficiaries who joined the Program during this quarter, 63% (275 children) come from peasant families, 28% (121) correspond to Indigenous ethnic minorities (Paeces, Guambianos, Totoroes and Yanaconas), and 9% (40 children) are Afro-Colombian descendants. For the first time peasant children exceed the number of Indigenous youngsters. This resulted from the implementation of the risk assessment map which broadened the population covered and included other communities.

*Table 21: Beneficiaries by indigenous group
Department of Cauca (cumulative)*

| Indigenous | Beneficiaries | % |
|-------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Paeces | 46 | 38 |
| Guambianos | 20 | 17 |
| Totoroes | 45 | 37 |
| Yanaconas | 10 | 8 |
| Total | 121 | 100 |

The participation of Indigenous groups is represented by the following communities: Paeces, 38% (46 beneficiaries); Guambianos, 17% (20 beneficiaries); Totoroes, 37% (45 beneficiaries) and Yanaconas with 10% (8 beneficiaries). Although the Paeces continue to be the ones most represented the fact that there is an increasing number of Totoroes is noteworthy. These became part of the projects as a result of their participation in the risk assessment map methodology.

Table 22: Beneficiaries by gender – Department of Cauca(cumulative)

| Gender | Beneficiaries | % |
|--------|---------------|-----|
| Female | 136 | 31 |
| Male | 300 | 69 |
| Total | 436 | 100 |

Of the total 436 beneficiaries provided assistance during this quarter 69% (300) are males and 31% (136) are females. The distribution by gender is similar to that during the previous quarter. The projects that are being implemented have a considerable number of females although there is no significant difference in the kinds of project they participate in. This means that gender participation is similar regardless the component of the project whether these are income generating, educational or cultural.

Table 23: Distribution by armed group – Department of Cauca (quarter)

| Groups | Beneficiaries | % |
|--------|---------------|-----|
| FARC | 5 | 71 |
| AUC | 2 | 29 |
| Total | 7 | 100 |

In the department of Cauca 136 youngsters demobilized from the armed conflict have been provided assistance to date. During this quarter seven youngsters joined the Program: 71% (5) were demobilized from the FARC and 29% (2) from the AUC. The tendency of a greater engagement in the FARC continues because this is the group with the largest presence in this department.

Table 24: Beneficiaries in food security and education projects – Department of Chocó (quarter & cumulative)

| Type of Project | Beneficiaries/Quarter | | | | Beneficiaries/Cumulative | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|----------|------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|----------|--------------------|
| | Indigenous | Afro Colombians | Teachers | Public Employees | Indigenous | Afro ColombianS | Teachers | Server Functionary |
| Food Security | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 47 | 282 | 0 | 0 |
| Educational(Human Rights, Others | 10 | 1064 | 316 | 87 | 182 | 1909 | 499 | 87 |

The project for assistance to ethnic minorities in the Department of Chocó has provided assistance to 3,006 beneficiaries in food security projects and human rights training (in the framework of the agreement with the Human Rights Ombudsman's Office). The cumulative figures show that the coverage of children of Afro-Colombian communities reaches 72.8% (2,191 beneficiaries); Indigenous children of the Embera ethnic group with 7.6% (229 beneficiaries), and teachers and public servants 19.5% (586).

Coverage increased by 1,477 beneficiaries during this quarter. Children of Afro-Colombian communities represent 71.8% of the beneficiaries and Indigenous children represent only 1%. This is due to the fact that Afro-Colombians constitute the majority ethnic group in the department of Chocó. An evaluation process has started with the Human Rights Ombudsman's Office to identify the factors that help prevent child engagement in the GAI. The restraining elements of their own culture will be identified so that may be included in future projects

Table 25: Demobilized children and children at risk of recruitment (quarter and cumulative)

| Type of Project | Beneficiaries/Quarter | | | | Beneficiaries/Cumulative | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|
| | Demobilized | | At Risk | | Demobilized | | At Risk | |
| | Indigenous | Afro Colombians | Indigenous | Afro Colombians | Indigenous | Afro Colombians | Indigenous | Afro Colombians |
| Food Security | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 45 | 7 | 2 | 275 |
| Educational (Human Rights, Other) | 0 | 0 | 10 | 1064 | 0 | 0 | 182 | 1909 |

The prevention component as an intervention strategy has two kinds of actions which are aimed at children who have been engaged in the armed conflict and at those who are at a risk of being recruited by the GAI. Thus, 52 children demobilized from the GAI (Guevarista Revolutionary Army and the FARC) have been provided assistance. These represent 2.1% of the youngsters who have been supported with income generating projects on food security. Beneficiaries at a risk of being recruited represent 97.5% of the total (2,360).

V. LESSONS LEARNED

Prevention

- It is a wise decision to convene different institutions such as government organizations, NGOs and community based organizations in the development of the Risk Assessment Maps. Furthermore, it is also appropriate to make previous contacts from Bogotá before traveling to the regions. This made it possible to attain commitments, coordinate timeframes and obtain co-financing resources.
- Simultaneous education on the participation of the children, the families and the community is recommended when implementing the Risk Assessment Map methodology. In the regions it is commonly thought that childhood only lasts until the children are nine or ten years old. After that age they are considered youngsters or adults. This is the reason for children being subject to assume greater responsibilities than they are able to handle. Education, with the due respect for and autonomy of the different cultures, could contribute to recruitment prevention.

ICBF assistance model

- The slots assigned to the youngsters of the Program and their admission into the public education system guarantees the sustainability of the process for restitution of the right to education.
- Education monitoring and school reinforcement provided by the teachers of the Centers need to be strengthened because access to the public education system and to other more formal educational and institutional alternatives involves greater academic demands from the youngsters.
- Greater coaching and feedback is required in the process to define the youngsters' life paths so that they may take better advantage of the employment integration opportunities that the Program provides.
- A successful strategy for generating income requires plenty of time in accordance with the youngsters' development and the consequent evaluation of the education and employment opportunities.

Reintegration

The start-up of the Referral Centers has made it possible to identify the most important actions that should be taken in benefit of the youngsters who have graduated from the Program and who are in the social integration process.

Ethnic minorities projects

The accomplishments and progress of the ethnic minorities' projects is a result of their design being carried out within the community. The projects' sustainability is based on the degree of coordination with the indigenous councils (*Cabildo Indígena*) and youngsters' solidarity and a sense of culture resulting from the fact that they are immersed in their own communities.

VI. PRIORITIES FOR THE NEXT QUARTER

Prevention

- Make the agreements to implement the project resulting from the Risk Assessment Map in the departments of Santander, Antioquia, Huila and Putumayo.
- Carry out regional encounters to present the initiative to prevent child engagement in the armed conflict and disseminate the TV commercials, the radio spots and the posters locally.
- Print the guidelines for the module for the design of Vulnerability and Risk Assessment Maps and disseminate them.
- Present the “Un Canto Nuestro” CD and the video clip under the creation of awareness strategy.

ICBF Assistance Model

- Publish the sexual education handbook and distribute it in all the Centers.
- Take action with the Municipal Education Offices of Bogotá and Cundinamarca to ensure public sector education slots for all the youngsters' of the Program.
- Implement follow-up and technical and logistical support among the public sector institutions that have taken responsibility to provide education services to the youngsters demobilized from the armed conflict.
- Support the Centers in the adjustment of their school reinforcement plans for the children so that they may successfully respond to the academic demands of the public sector education institutions.
- Edit and make available to the youngsters the information folder, the interactive guidebook and the methodology guide for teachers.
- Strengthen the work with the youngsters for the construction of their income generating plans as part of their life paths and carry out individual follow-up these processes.
- Complete start-up activities of the projects and selection of the beneficiaries for ongoing productivity projects.
- Train the task force created for the Contingency Plan.
- Begin the two test projects to provide assistance within the youngsters' social and family environment (foster home in Armenia and the Conditional Subsidy for families in Medellín).

Reintegration

- Carry out evaluation of the projects with ethnic minorities in order to establish their impact on the following areas: i) keep the youngsters in their community and cultural environment; ii) prevent demobilized Indigenous children from reengaging in the GAI; iii) find possible cultural models to provide assistance to ethnic minorities that may be repeated in other areas of the country.